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SUPPLEMENTARY APPENDIX

TO THE

REPORT

OF THE

POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS

ON THE

MEDICAL CHARITIES,

IRELAND,

IN PURSUANCE OF THE 46TH SECTION OF THE ACT 1 & 2 VICTORIA, CHAP. 56.

WITH INDEXES.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED BY ALEXANDER THOM, 86, ABBEY-STREET,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1841.

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SUPPLEMENTARY APPENDIX

TO

REPORT OF THE POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS

ON

MEDICAL CHARITIES, IRELAND.

PURSUANT TO THE 46TH SECTION OF THE ACT 1 AND 2 VICTORIA, C. 56.

[*In continuation from p.* 96.]

Completion of Inquiry.

THE following Reports complete the Inquiry into the Medical Charities in all the Irish Unions. The information which has been collected in course of the Inquiry in the remaining 77 Unions, agrees in every respect, with that previously obtained in the examination of the other 53, and is confirmatory of the views expressed in the Commissioners' Report of the 5th of May.

In the early stage of the Inquiry, persons were stated to have occasionally declared an intention to withhold their Subscriptions, assigning as a reason, the forthcoming payment of Poor Rate. But during the latter period of the Inquiry, statements to this effect became very general; and several have already discontinued their Subscriptions on this ground, and others have given notice that they will do so.

In many places a strong desire prevailed to establish Fever Hospitals, and funds were even obtained for that purpose; but the design has, in some instances, been postponed, and in others, the County Grant has been refused, on the grounds of its not being advisable to take any step until the result of this Inquiry is known. There appears, therefore, reason to apprehend, that under the existing system, even the present amount of Medical Relief will not in future be afforded, nothwithstanding that the necessity for such Relief is universally admitted.

Several of the Infirmaries are situated near the confines of Counties, and therefore present facilities for affording relief to large Districts in the contiguous Counties; but such relief cannot be given under the existing law, and a provision to remedy this defect appears to be necessary, and has been suggested by very intelligent individuals connected with these Institutions.

During the Inquiry in these 77 Unions, many persons who attended the Meetings were desirous that the Assistant Commissioners should explain the Suggestions made by the Commissioners in their Report of the 5th of May. This explanation was given in a number of places, in each Province, and an opportunity was thus afforded of learning the opinions of persons connected with the Charities. Some stated that they had not yet given the subject due consideration; a few that the existing machinery is sufficient in their particular localities; others objected to portions of the details, and suggested modifications which are adverted to in the Union Reports. But throughout, the principles on which the Commissioners' recommendations are grounded, were, with scarcely an exception, either admitted or decidedly approved. Two Resolutions of Boards of Guardians, and certain communications from Officers of Medical Institutions, to this effect, are annexed.

APPENDIX (D.)

REPORTS OF ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS (*Continued.*)

REPORT on the MEDICAL CHARITIES in Unions not comprised in preceding Reports.—

By DENIS PHELAN, Esq., M.R.C.S., Lond., and MAURICE CORR, Esq., M.D., M.R.C.S.I., *Assistant Poor Law Commissioners.*

APPENDIX (D.)

Reports of Assistant Commissioners.

Antrim Union.

There are four Dispensaries in the *Antrim Union.*

At the Antrim Dispensary, the Medicines are apparently supplied from the same stock as those kept by the Physician for his private patients.

Difficult Labour cases are not attended as Dispensary duty, probably as the Doctor's salary is very moderate, the funds being inadequate to remunerate him better.

Pauper Midwifery cases are not attended in the Doagh District, in which the Doctor's salary is limited to £50 per year, by, it is said, an order of the Grand Jury; and but for which order more funds could be obtained, it is said, by the Physician's exertions.

Many Proprietors and other wealthy parties connected with the Doagh District do not subscribe to this Institution, but their poorer tenantry are attended. The same occurs in the Randalstown District.

At the latter, the Honorable Mr. Hancock, a Resident Magistrate and Agent to Lord O'Neil's estate, and other respectable Subscribers, wished us to record their views to be that an efficient system of Dispensary relief is essentially necessary, and that the best mode of providing funds is by a compulsory assessment; that these Dispensaries, with Local or District, not County Hospitals, would be more useful to the Sick, and more satisfactory to the Gentry and Tax-payers; and that the wants of the Sick Poor require that the funds should be sufficient to remunerate well-qualified and competent Medical men, who, if neglectful of their duties, or unable to perform them, should be removed, and other fit practitioners substituted.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union; but few patients are sent from it to the Hospitals at Belfast or Lisburn. Such an Institution is said to be very necessary.

Some of the inhabitants of the Union obtain Infirmary relief at Lisburn, and others at Belfast, but from want of room in the former, and of sufficient funds in the latter, the Hospitals at these places are unable to admit many who require such relief.

Ballycastle Union.

The *Ballycastle Union* contains three Dispensaries, which are situated on the sea coast at Ballycastle, Cushendun, and Cushendall; but considering their number, locality, and other circumstances, we believe that sufficient Medical aid is not available for the Sick Poor within this Union, comprising an area of 102,530 acres, and a population of 26,453.

Domiciliary visits are not expected to be made by the Surgeons to two of these Institutions, and only to a limited extent by the third. This important species of relief is, therefore, very deficient in the Union. The Ballycastle Dispensary, so far as the funds permit, is well managed; but as these are very limited, the Subscribers do not require the Medical Officer to extend his visits beyond an area of three miles from that Town.

The Cushendun Dispensary has been lately established. From the almost insulated situation of the place, the Institution cannot afford extensive relief. Domiciliary visiting is not required of the Medical Officer. But, were the Cushendall Dispensary an efficient one, and another established at Glenarm, the wants of this part of the Country could be supplied by them, relief to be afforded by branches from each to those who reside more in the interior.

Subscriptions and a County Grant have been obtained for a Dispensary at Glenarm, through the liberality and exertions of Mr. M'Donnell, the Proprietor of the District, but it is not yet in operation.

The Cushendall Dispensary is in charge of a person who has no medical qualification whatever. Much complaint was made of the want of proper Medical relief for the Sick Poor in that locality.

The Gentleman in charge of this Dispensary has been confined through illness for the last nine months, during a short portion of which his duties were performed by a qualified Apothecary, but at the time of our visit, the only person said to act as Dispensary Attendant was a junior apprentice to an Apothecary.

Attendance on cases of difficult Labour is not part of the Medical Officer's duty at any of these Dispensaries.

The want of Infirmary relief was forcibly impressed upon our consideration in this Union, particularly at Ballycastle, which is 50 Irish miles from the County Infirmary, and to which Patients seldom go. The distance, expense of conveyance, and difficulty of procuring recommendations of admission tend to prevent Patients from seeking at Lisburn that relief which, owing to the facility of steam conveyance from Ballycastle, they obtain at Edinburgh, on cheaper terms, and with more certainty.

Accommodation for Fever cases is not available in any part of this Union. A small Hospital lately established at Ballycastle is now closed, the funds for its support being

exhausted. To meet the strongly expressed want of Infirmary and Fever Hospital relief, we were requested to record the opinions of several Subscribers who attended our Meetings, to the effect "that a compulsory Rate off the District, or a portion of the Poor Rate, should be the only means of supporting Medical Charities, and that such funds should be managed by Local Boards," under systematic arrangements.

This arrangement, it was said, would relieve persons at a distance from paying for County Institutions from which they derive no benefit, and would introduce the principle of having some share of the Cess which is raised off the County at large expended in giving Hospital relief in Baronies or other localities.

There are many Proprietors in the Union who do not subscribe. Many unfit cases seek for, and obtain, Medical aid.

Ballymena Union.

There are only two Dispensaries in the *Ballymena Union*. One of these, at Toome, is most inconveniently situated as the centre of a District. It is on the extreme South Western point of the Union, and does not include any portion of that to which it is immediately contiguous. At Ahoghill the Dispensary arrangements and the stock of Medicines were but indifferent; the Medical Officer, however, does all the good which the limited means in his power enables him.

As the Union contains a population of 66,964, and as the arrangements for relief at these two Institutions are very defective, the Sick Poor of more than two-thirds of the Union must be entirely beyond the reach of any Dispensary. In proof of this opinion, we need only point out the small number to which relief has been given, one in 75 of the population, which is by no means a rich one.

The central Town of the Union, Ballymena, has no Dispensary.

The funds for each Dispensary are insufficient to give relief on such a scale as the wants of the sick require.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, nor are any Fever Patients sent to the Belfast Hospital from it. The Subscribers to both Dispensaries have entertained the idea of establishing one at Ballymena, but they have been unable to carry out this intention. £260 have been subscribed for this purpose, but the fiscal authorities are said to have refused the corresponding County Grants. The want of such relief is much felt.

In the Committee's Report for 1837, it is stated "that in consequence of the very great number of Fever cases that occurred during the last year, it was resolved, that an appeal be made to the Subscribers to enable the Committee to fit up a room in connexion with the Dispensary, with a few beds for Fever Patients, as, in many instances, the disease spread through the entire family, which might have been prevented by the removal of the first sick person." This appeal, however, has not been attended with the desired effect; for, though some funds were obtained, difficulties occurred, and the project has not succeeded.

There is no Infirmary relief in the Union. The Lisburn and Belfast Hospitals are too remote to afford it to the greater part of those who stand in need of it.

Ballymoney Union.

The *Ballymoney Union* contains four Dispensaries, in charge of four Medical Officers. They are fairly distributed, and are said to afford a tolerable amount of relief.

The supply of Medicines appears very scanty, and the number recommended few in proportion to the population of the District.

It is stated that in one year 60 cases of Fever were attended on one estate, whose owner does not subscribe to the Dispensary.

The Subscriptions to these Dispensaries are small, and the remuneration to the Medical Officers is not sufficient to compensate them for attendance on large Districts.

There is neither Fever Hospital nor Infirmary relief in the Union, the distance from hence to Lisburn and Belfast rendering the County Institutions at these places totally useless, it is said, to the Sick Poor of this part of the County Antrim. All parties are in favor of such relief being afforded by Union or Local Institutions.

Clogher Union.

The *Clogher Union* contains three Dispensaries, situated at Aughnacloy, Ballygawley, and Clogher; and the relief given by them appears to be considerable, though insufficient for the entire Union, which contains a population of 38,855.

The Dispensary at Aughnacloy has been lately established, but the benefits which it is capable of affording, are curtailed from want of sufficient funds, as many Proprietors in the District are not Subscribers. The tenantry of these individuals have hitherto obtained relief, but the Subscribers have lately resolved that it shall be discontinued in future.

The Dispensary at Ballygawley is well managed and efficient. A charge of 2*s*. 6*d*. is made for each domiciliary visit, but we found that this plan originated in a desire to prevent the Medical Officer from being called on to *visit* persons well able to *attend* at the Dispensary.

The Clogher Dispensary is also a well conducted Institution, but the funds for its support are precarious, and were it not for the Subscriptions of the Bishop and Dean, they would be wholly inadequate to meet the necessary expenditure.

A large Proprietor in the District has withdrawn his subscription, on the grounds of having to pay the Poor Rate, and it is apprehended that others will follow his example. There are besides in the District many Proprietors and other wealthy persons who do not subscribe to this charity. Some of the Subscribers insist on having all their tenants, rich and poor, attended, which practice others consider to be irregular and injudicious.

Clogher Union.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. One or more such local Institutions are advocated. A Subscription was raised at Ballygawley last year for the purpose of establishing a Fever Hospital, but the County Grant was refused.

The Dean and other Subscribers urged the necessity of having a compulsory Rate for the support of these Institutions, and expressed themselves to be highly favorable to such legislation as would enable the Union Authorities to afford the necessary Dispensary and Hospital Relief.

There is considerable want of Infirmary Relief in some parts of this Union, particularly in the more Southern, owing to the distance to the County Infirmary, want of a mode of conveyance, and difficulty of admission into it.

Coleraine Union.

The *Coleraine Union* contains five Dispensaries, which, if pretty equally distributed, would be sufficient for the Sick Poor of a population of 50,940. But, on reference to the Union Statistical Table, it will be seen that whilst one Medical Attendant has charge of a population of 18,211, the District of another has only 2,746, the duties of the one being probably far more than he can possibly perform, though a very zealous Officer, whilst those of the other are comparatively insignificant.

Several Proprietors and others of wealth in this Union, are not Subscribers to the Dispensaries, and some only contribute slightly.

Unfit objects are occasionally recommended to the Coleraine Dispensary. In reference to this abuse, in a Report for 1840, the Surgeon observes, "I fear pains are not taken by the Subscribers to ascertain the true condition in life of applicants for recommendations, and if this were more strictly enquired into, I am sure that the names of many which now frequently figure on the books of the Dispensary, would never find a place therein;" and he very justly adds, "from the Dispensary to the Poor House is but a short and frequently taken step, and in the present transition of Public Charities, coming as they soon will under the operation of a compulsory tax, any decline in this feeling of independence is much to be dreaded, and ought promptly and firmly to be checked."

It should, however be observed, that this abuse is far less frequent in most parts of Ulster, than in the other Provinces.

In another Report he states, "On taking charge of the Dispensary, I adopted a rule to which I have since strictly adhered, of not giving any Medicine asked for by the Patient, but that which I myself prescribed. I know that this was a most unpalatable change, but it has put a stop to *the disgraceful system of selling the drugs so procured, and very much reduced in amount the Druggist's annual bill.*"

The practice here alluded to is said to be of frequent occurrence at Dispensaries and Infirmaries.

A Fever Hospital has been lately established in Coleraine; it is capable of containing 20 Beds. Its extent of accommodation is not sufficient for the wants of the Union, but there is little doubt, that as the advantages of such an Institution are now experienced, the very intelligent Gentry of this District, will enlarge it, if necessary.

No Patients have been sent from this Union to the County Fever Hospital at Londonderry.

Surgical cases are occasionally sent from this to the County Infirmary, but its remoteness prevents it from being sufficiently available to the population of the Union. Generally, local Infirmary and Fever Hospital relief, is advocated.

In the Report of Dr. Babington, lately the very able Medical Attendant of the Portstewart Dispensary, the following very pertinent remarks are made:—"Permit me to make one or two observations on Dispensaries in general. First, as to their utility; and secondly, whether they will be required when the Poor Relief Act comes into operation. In proof of the utility of Dispensaries, we have only to appeal to the Records and Registries of these Establishments, and we will find they have been eminently successful in checking the progress and ravages of Fevers and other infectious diseases, in speedily affording surgical assistance in cases of accident, and in violent inflammatory affections, the prompt interference of the Dispensary Physician frequently cuts short a formidable disease. Secondly, it is evident that the Workhouse cannot afford medical or surgical aid to the industrious working population when attacked by disease or disabled from accident: they reside in many cases at so great a distance from the County Infirmary as to render their removal thither dangerous and impracticable; from whence then are they to receive aid unless from the neighbouring Dispensary? Such cases as these will require the Medical aid afforded by Dispensaries even after the Poor Relief Act comes into operation. It is true that when the Workhouses are established there will be fewer daily attendants at the several Parochial Dispensaries; but it is not in the Dispensary that the Medical Superintendent's chief duty should be performed: *his business is to look after the Sick in their own dwellings,* and there, if possible arrest the progress of disease. It is almost certain that some change will be made in the arrangement of these Institutions when the whole machinery of the Poor Law Act is put into operation, the Commissioners, being authorized to inquire into and report on all Medical Charities, with a view to future legislation. Whatever changes are made, I have no doubt (if in the hands of the Poor Law Commissioners) that by such the utility of these Institutions will be increased, and their sphere of action enlarged."

Cookstown Union.

The *Cookstown Union* contains four Dispensaries, attended by four Medical Officers, which are perhaps sufficient for a population of 44,624. It is doubtful however if in one, the Cookstown Dispensary, the Sick Poor obtain the necessary assistance.

On making an inspection of the Dispensary shop, the stock of Medicines was found to be

Cookstown Union.

exceedingly small, limited to very few articles, and wanting some of the most necessary, and those which are in almost general use in such Institutions. These few were thrown together in such disorder, and there was so much want of arrangement, that we were induced to enquire where the remainder was kept; the answer was, that there were none else. On further enquiry it appeared that during the past three years, the expenditure of the Institution was £324 17*s.* 9*d.* and that the cost of medicines only amounted to £13 2*s.* 9*d.*, being one year £2 14*s.* 6½*d.*, the next £4 10*s.* 7*d.*, the third £5 17*s.* 8*d.*

During this period it was stated that 4,998 Patients had been attended; making an average of 1,666 per year. As the District contains a population of 21,056, the smallness of this number compared with that population affords strong grounds for apprehending that the Sick Poor in it have not had the benefit of regular and careful Dispensary attendance. But when it is seen that whilst the average of each case so entered, cost the public 1*s.* 3½*d.*, the medicines given to each cost only ¾*d.*, this apprehension must be much increased. In fact, so strong was the impression on our minds at the moment, that we did not hesitate to express our opinion on the subject to the Subscribers, in the Doctor's presence, stating that it appeared very doubtful that the Sick Poor could have obtained the necessary medicines; and that when these are withheld, the Sick cannot be done justice to.

The District, however, is far too large for one Medical Attendant. Besides, the Medical Officer resides on a farm three miles from Cookstown.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union, nor any nearer than Omagh, to which no Patients are sent from hence.

Some Patients are sent to the Omagh Infirmary from the Union, but the number is very few, as the distance and the want of a means of conveyance, prevent serious cases from going there.

Many Proprietors and others of wealth in the Dispensary Districts of this Union, do not subscribe to these Institutions.

The Subscribers to the Coagh Dispensary requested us to record their opinion, that a small Hospital to relieve Fever and Surgical cases in the District is considered desirable, as no material benefit is derived by these from the Institutions at Omagh.

Dungannon Union.

There are two Dispensaries in the *Dungannon Union*, in charge of two Medical Officers, one in Dungannon, the other at Benburb. The former, with a population of 23,693, is in charge of a Surgeon, who appears to perform his duties faithfully, but who cannot attend probably more than half the Sick Poor of the District.* The Medical Superintendent of the latter, is also in charge of the Blackwatertown Dispensary, in the County of Armagh; the joint population of both is 17,539. Much of the remaining population of 32,000, is not included in any Dispensary District. It is therefore evident, that nearly two-thirds of the Sick Poor of the Union are unable to obtain domiciliary attendance when seriously ill.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. That at Omagh is too remote and too small, to be of any service to this part of the County. The want of Fever Hospital relief, and the evils caused by the extension of Fever amongst the Poor, were forcibly depicted by the Protestant and Roman Catholic Clergymen, and by the other Subscribers at Dungannon, who strongly advocate the establishment of a Union Hospital, to be supported out of the Poor Rates, or by some general compulsory assessment.

The remoteness of the Omagh Infirmary, and the difficulty of obtaining means of conveyance to it, render it of little value to the Sick Poor of this Union.

Larne Union.

The *Larne Union* contains two Dispensaries, which are in charge of two Medical Officers, and which must be inadequate to afford the necessary relief to a population of 35,695. In fact one half the Sick Poor of the Union cannot be attended under the existing arrangements.

The total Subscriptions for the Carrickfergus Dispensary only amount to £8 6*s.* contributed by ten individuals, in a population of 8,706; and the entire annual funds are only £16 12*s.*, which are expended on medicines, leaving none to pay the Medical Attendant, (who has received no salary for his labours during the last five years,) consequently the attendance is insufficient, as might be expected under such circumstances.

It is evident that many Proprietors and other wealthy parties connected with the District, do not subscribe. Those who attended the Dispensary meeting are favorable to such legislation as will enable Union authorities to raise funds on the principle of the Poor Rate, both for Dispensary and Fever Hospital purposes.

The Proprietors of the Larne District, generally, subscribe to the Dispensary there, but many wealthy Occupiers do not.

A large portion of this District, Island Magee for instance, has no Dispensary attendance.

The Rector of Island Magee, and others connected with it, lately held a meeting with a view to induce the Proprietors and others to subscribe for the support of a Dispensary there, but their efforts have not been attended with success.

Fever has been at times so prevalent in Larne, that a Board of Health has been established there. The want of a Fever Hospital is said to be much felt.

* The salary of the Surgeon to this Institution is £100 per year, which has been regularly paid. A considerable balance being on hands in the year 1840, a gratuity of £100 was voted and paid to him, under circumstances which require to be here stated. No notice of an intention to that effect was given to the Subscribers, and the meeting at which this large sum was voted was only attended by six, two of whom strongly protested against it, suggesting that the sense of the Subscribers ought to be taken on it. Some check on such an irregular, if not illegal, disposal of public funds appears to be necessary.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, and no such relief is obtained by those residing in it. Some relief is obtained by the Sick in this Union at the Lisburn and Belfast Infirmaries, but not in proportion to their wants.

Magherafelt Union.

The *Magherafelt Union* contains six Dispensaries, which are well distributed; and are probably sufficient for the wants of the Sick Poor of a population of 74,542. They are in charge of six Medical Officers.

Independent of the sum expended on the Sick Poor of this Union, from Subscpritions and County Funds, the Drapers' Company pay two of these Medical Officers very liberally for attendance on the Poor of their estates.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, nor any within sufficient reach of it, to be available to its population. That at Londonderry is stated to be perfectly useless to this whole District. By the benevolence of an individual, a few cases of Fever are relieved in a cabin near Magherafelt, but the funds and room are very limited.

Though some Patients are sent from this Union to the County Infirmary at Londonderry, its remoteness, about 27 miles, from the greater part of the population, renders it comparatively of little use to it.

Several of the Subscribers and the Medical Officers express an opinion that the want of Fever Hospital and Infirmary relief are very injurious, and that steps should be taken to remedy them, by the establishment of one or more Local Institutions within the Union.

Ballyshannon Union.

The *Ballyshannon Union* contains four Dispensaries, which are in charge of five Medical Officers, but a considerable part of the District of one is in the Enniskillen Union, and of another in the Donegal Union. The total population included in the four Districts is 50,306. The duties in all appear to be faithfully performed, as far as circumstances admit.

The Surgeon of the Ballintra Dispensary is not expected to attend dangerous Midwifery cases, which is the more to be regretted, as it is said there is no other Medical Man in the District qualified to do so, and the more surprising as, on the occasion of an impending election for a Medical Officer, the Subscribers passed a resolution that no one would be elected unless he possessed a Midwifery certificate. The Clergymen who were present observed that this was a circumstance which required to be remedied, but the funds are considered to be insufficient to remunerate the Surgeon; hence, perhaps, the indisposition to press him on this point. It is however certain that under the circumstances, provision ought to be made for attendance on such cases, for nothing can be more horrifying than the death of a poor woman in child-birth whose friends provide the assistance of a midwife, but who are unable to pay for Medical aid when the danger is such as to require it. It is much to be regretted that so melancholy a circumstance should occur in communities where the means exist to prevent it. But that it does take place in many Dispensary Districts is certain.

At one of these Dispensaries, the Churchhill, the Subscribers are allowed to obtain medicines from the Dispensary at Druggists' prices. This must always cause a loss to the Institution, as the invoice price does not cover the expense of carriage, jars, &c. Under judicious regulations however, the practice might be made useful to the Subscribers and to other parties in Districts which are remote from any Apothecary's Establishment. But the arrangement of this Institution appears to be defective, as the shop in which the medicines are placed is very damp, causing those of the vegetable kind to spoil in a short time. On this account only a small supply is obtained at any time, and the total cost is much greater than if a good room, well adapted to contain the medicines, were provided. The supply, when we inspected the Institution, was scanty.

It is stated by several Subscribers that when a Poor Rate is being paid, Subscriptions are likely to be diminished; a compulsory tax is therefore advocated by them.

At this Dispensary it is necessary that the names of two Subscribers shall be signed to a visiting recommendation. This rule appears calculated to render this all-important portion of the duty ineffective. In a dense population, where many Subscribers can be found within a short distance, its operation may not be injurious, but it is likely to become so in a rural one.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. The Subscribers and Medical Attendants of each Dispensary state that the want of such relief is much felt. Generally, the opinion is that the funds for such Institutions, and for Dispensaries, should be raised on the principle of the Poor Rate, partly because in each District it is known that some Proprietors and other wealthy parties do not now subscribe, and partly because they apprehend that unless by a compulsory, but equitable taxation, a sufficiency of funds cannot be obtained, or a satisfactory administration of them ensured. This opinion was strongly expressed by Col. Connolly, M.P. for the Co. Donegal, who is a most liberal Subscriber to a considerable number of the Institutions in that County. His views are, that each Union should support its own Dispensaries and Fever Hopital or Hospitals, and that the Infirmaries should cease to be County Institutions, and be made available for and charged on Districts. He has come to this conclusion from knowing that the County of Donegal Infirmary, at Lifford, is of scarcely any use to the Ballyshannon end of that County, and considers it inequitable that those should pay for it who cannot derive any benefit from it.

Mr. Atkinson a large Proprietor, and other Subscribers, with the Medical Gentlemen present at Ballyshannon, expressed their concurrence in these opinions.

Some Patients are admitted into the Fermanagh and Sligo Infirmaries, from the Fermanagh and Leitrim portions of the Union; but as Lifford is 36 (Irish) miles from Ballyshannon, the Donegal part of the population receives scarcely any Infirmary relief.

Bailieboro' Union.

There are three Dispensaries in the *Bailieboro' Union*, which are in charge of three Medical Officers. The population of one, that at Bailieboro', is much too large, and that of the Kingscourt Dispensary too small, the former being 19,394, the latter only 4,844.

The Districts for which the three are intended, contain a population of nearly 34,000, leaving one of about 7000 excluded from any such relief. The tract of country thus excluded forms a portion of the County Meath Electoral Divisions of the Union.

The Dispensary arrangements at Bailieboro', and the stock of Medicines are not satisfactory.

To prevent abuses, and to ensure relief and the necessary domiciliary attendance to fit objects, each guinea Subscriber is entitled to five visiting tickets, and he may obtain four more for which a fee of 2*s.* 6*d.* is to be paid to the Surgeon.

It is stated that many unfit objects are recommended in the Bailieboro' District, and that some Subscribers expect their tenantry rich and poor to be attended.

The Medical Officer of the Kingscourt Dispensary was not in attendance on the day fixed for the Inquiry, and we ascertained that the communication made to him on the subject, still remained in the Dispensary unopened, from the 10th of July until the 16th, when we came to inspect the Institution. The information we obtained was, that the Medical Attendant had not been at the Dispensary during the last nine days; that he sees Patients at the Dispensary on Tuesday and Wednesday only. This arrangement is the reverse of that which is usually adopted, where the convenience and benefit of the Sick Poor are attended to. Feeling it but justice to this Medical Officer that he should be informed of the account given us in his absence, we requested that he would explain the cause of it, if he really were absent, as above stated. To this the following reply has been received:—"I am in Dispensary practice 34 years, without any one complaint being ever made against me, and in every way I comply with the rules laid down by the Committee, *to whom I am only accountable*, for any negligence I may be guilty of." This Gentleman's family residence is at Dunleer, in the County of Louth, 17 miles distant. He is also Physician to the Drumcondra Dispensary, in the County of Meath, six miles distant from Kingscourt.

£80 have been obtained by Subscription and County Grant, for the purpose of giving relief to Fever Patients in the Bailieborough District, but none has been yet afforded. In consequence of the distance of Cavan from all parts of the Union, the County Fever Hospital is of little use to its Sick Poor, and at Bailieboro' and Shercock, the want of such relief is stated to be much required.

Some Patients are sent to the County Infirmary from this Union but its remoteness prevents many from going there.

At Shercock, the Subscribers are favorable to such legislation as will ensure certain funds for Fever Hospital and Dispensary relief, raised on the principle of the Poor Rate. The Dispensary appears to be well managed.

Cavan Union.

There are nine Dispensaries in the *Cavan Union*, which for a dense rural population of 83,604 may be considered an adequate number. The relief afforded, however, is not sufficient; to this many circumstances contribute.

First—Four of the Medical Attendants reside some miles out of their respective Districts, an arrangement that cannot be always avoided, but which is almost invariably sure to diminish the utility of such an Institution.

Secondly—The Funds of some of these Dispensaries are inadequate to pay for the necessary Medicines and to remunerate the Surgeons even moderately for their services; and under such circumstances it is well known that efficiency is not to be expected.

This depressed condition is stated to be caused by the smallness of the Subscriptions, in reference to which it is observed, that many Proprietors and other parties of considerable wealth, cannot be induced to give any Subscription to the Institutions in their respective Districts, and that the contributions of many who do subscribe are very small in proportion to the extent of their properties. It is observed, for instance, that in the Killeshandra Dispensary District, nearly one-half the entire amount of Subscriptions are from the Clergymen of both persuasions, and were it not for them, (the Rector subscribes £10 per year,) "the Institution could not be supported for a week."

At one of these Institutions, that at Ardagh, it was stated that no Meeting of Subscribers had taken place from the year 1832 to 1840.

At three the Dispensary shops were extremely wretched, and the stock of Medicines very scanty.

There are two Fever Hospitals in the Union, one at Cavan, the other at Ballyconnell. The former obtains the *maximum* County Grant viz.—£500 annually; and is intended for the entire County. It contains 36 beds, but could accommodate 40 Patients; no Fever case is refused admission, except when the House is full, but they often are from this cause, and fit objects are obliged to return home, frequently a distance of several miles, without being admitted. The accommodation of the Institution is in fact, not sufficient for the wants of the Union, much less for that of the County, as the following circumstance pretty clearly shows.

In a Return furnished to us by the Medical Officer, we find that 659 Patients were admitted in the year 1840; but as no record of their respective residences were kept, the distances from whence they came could not be ascertained. On the day of our Inspection, the Hospital contained 37 Patients, whose residences being ascertained, it was found that 22 came from within five miles of Cavan, 14 from between five and ten miles, and 1 from a

distance of twelve miles.* Assuming this to be the proportion in which the above number of 659 resided within five and ten miles, and beyond ten miles, it would follow that, within the first circle, 392 resided, within the second, that is in the District, between five and ten miles around Cavan, 249 resided, and beyond ten miles, 18 resided.

Cavan Union.

On examining the Ordnance Survey and Census of the County, we find that the first circle contains a population of at most 46,000, the second about 46,000, and the entire County outside, about 134,000.

The relief afforded, then, by an Institution intended for the entire County, and to support which the entire is assessed, would stand thus, relatively with the entire population:—The 1st Class obtains the benefit of the Hospital in the proportion of 1 to 117; the 2nd, of 1 to 144; and the 3rd, of 1 to 7,333. Circumstances will, of course, somewhat vary these proportions.

The Ballyconnell Fever Hospital, which was lately established, contained only five beds, but even that accommodation has been found very useful. For want of Subscriptions the Institution has been closed.

The insufficiency of Subscriptions for the Ballyconnell Dispensary, and the difficulty of obtaining Fever Hospital Relief induce a large proportion of the Subscribers to advocate such legislation as would ensure Funds on the principle of the Poor Rate. They express a strong opinion that in no other way is the necessary relief likely to be obtained.

The Cavan Infirmary appears to be a very well managed Institution. In proportion to the Funds expended on it, the relief afforded is very considerable. It is chiefly supported by County and Treasury Grants: the Subscriptions for the last year only amounted to £6 6*s.*, the expenditure being £965 16*s.*

The Infirmary contains 51 beds, but the number usually occupied is about 40. This extent of accommodation is, at present, insufficient for the wants of the County, as at every Dispensary Meeting which we attended, it was stated that, though the Hospital is well managed, fit cases often fail to obtain admission, for want of room.

The following is an extract from the Surgeon's Report for the year 1841:—"I would take leave to call the attention of the Governors to a circumstance which is the cause of great difficulty and embarrassment to the Weekly Committee and to myself, and has been long felt as such. I allude to the very indiscriminate recommendations to the Infirmary of a class of persons who are not fit or proper Patients for any well regulated Surgical Hospital, and who are literally paupers or mendicants, without house or home, or even clothing to cover them. Such persons come sometimes from a great distance, and often in such a state of destitution, and sometimes of filthiness, as to render them fit objects only for the Sick Wards of a Poor House—and not at all the Inmates or Patients of such an Hospital as yours, established, I conceive, for the labourer, mechanic, or small farmer, who is unable to procure or command the Medical or Surgical assistance or help necessary for his disease. I trust, however, the operation of the Poor Law system will relieve you much from the class I speak of, and of consequence will leave more room for the relief of the better class."

This proves how necessary it was for this class of the Sick Poor that Workhouse relief should be provided. The Hospitals of these Establishments will of course absorb such as are above alluded to, with advantage to the Infirmaries, and to the wretched objects who often could not be admitted into them.

This Report contains a suggestion which appears to require attention—"I would beg leave to suggest to the Governors the consideration of establishing a self-supporting Ward, something on the principle of the *Maison de Santé*, whereby the decent labourer, mechanic, artizan, or small farmer, who either choose to present himself or be recommended by a Governor of the Institution, might receive all its benefits either for himself or for his wife, on the payment of a small sum weekly to the Institution, merely to defray the unavoidable expenses; and this I should think would not much exceed 7*s.* per week."

As the residences of the intern Patients are not entered in the Registry, the number admitted from within certain distances cannot be accurately given. But having ascertained the residences of 42 Patients who were in Hospital on the day of our Inspection, and assuming the proportions to be the same at all times, the admissions for the year 1840 would stand thus:

From within Five Miles, ...	159
Between Five and Ten do. ...	159
Beyond Ten do. ...	195
Total,	513

which would be in the proportion of 1 to 291 of the population of the first and second Districts, and of 1 to 841 of the third District.

Clones Union.

The *Clones Union* contains four Dispensaries, which are in charge of four Medical Officers. They are fairly distributed as regards the population, and may be considered sufficient for it.

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* The following are the Distances from Cavan at which all resided:

9	within one mile.	5	between five and six miles.
3	between one and two miles.	5	„ six and seven do.
1	„ two and three do.	2	„ seven and eight do.
2	„ three and four do.	2	„ eight and nine do.
7	„ four and five do.	1	at twelve miles.

A practice prevails here as in many other Districts, which is said to be attended with several advantages. The Medical Officer is paid a small sum 2*s.* 6*d.* or 5*s.* for his visit, either by the Patient or the Subscriber, or from the funds of the Institution.

Some unfit objects are attended, but the practice is not so frequent as in other Districts.

Clones Union.

Many Proprietors, chiefly non-residents, and other wealthy parties in the Union, are not Subscribers to the Dispensaries contiguous to which they have property or residences.

There is one Fever Hospital in the Union, at Clones. It contains 20 Beds, and its advantages are highly estimated. Patients are admitted into it from the surrounding District without reference to County boundaries; and the advantages of this practice being now perceived by the Subscribers, they strongly advocate the establishment of District or Union Fever Hospitals on a similar principle.

267 Patients were treated in this Hospital in the year 1840, of whom only six resided beyond a distance of five miles.

From the County Monaghan side of the Union, Patients are occasionally sent to the Monaghan Infirmary, and from the Fermanagh side to that at Enniskillen, but the difficulty of obtaining admission into each for want of room, and the frequent refusals, have latterly caused fit objects to remain contented with the attendance of the local Medical Officers. For these reasons the want of efficient Infirmary relief is much felt here; on which account some very bad cases have been attended at the Clones Fever Hospital.

Cootehill Union.

The *Cootehill Union* contains three Dispensaries, which appear to be efficiently attended by three Medical Officers. But as the population is 63,472, it may be safely assumed that notwithstanding all their exertions, at least one-third of the Sick Poor must be unprovided with domiciliary attendance.

The funds of two of these Institutions, the Drum and Rockcorry Dispensaries, are insufficient to pay for medicines and remunerate for Medical attendance. Some connected with them suggest "District taxation, as there are many landlords whose Sick Poor (tenantry) obtain relief at and from the Dispensary, but who will not subscribe one farthing."

The remoteness of the Cavan Fever Hospital from Cootehill, and its comparative inutility to the Sick of that Town, induced the local Gentry to establish a small one there lately; but it only consists of one room in a small house, or cabin rather, and into this room, as a matter of necessity, both males and females are admitted. A more commodious Institution for the relief of Fever cases, with a few beds for casualties, is felt to be necessary for the Union, whose situation on the borders of the Counties of Cavan and Monaghan, deprives it in a great degree of the advantages of both County Institutions. It is however doubted by some of the Subscribers if funds for such an Institution could be obtained by Subscriptions and County Grant.

This small Hospital admitted 144 Patients in the year 1840, all of whom resided in, or immediately near Cootehill. It will thus be seen that though some Fever Hospital relief is obtained in this Union, it is not sufficient.

The Cavan and Monaghan Infirmaries admit Patients from the Union freely, when there is room in either; but from want of accommodation fit cases are frequently refused.

Donegal Union.

There are three Dispensaries in the *Donegal Union*, in charge of three Medical Officers. A portion of two other Dispensaries are also included in it. These for a population of 32,928 ought to be sufficient to meet the wants of the Sick Poor.

There are many Proprietors in the Donegal Dispensary District, who do not subscribe to the charity. The funds are considered insufficient to pay the Medical Attendant, and the Subscribers therefore often refrain from calling on him to visit parties who really require his attendance, considering it to be unfair to give him so much labour for so small a remuneration.

Many unfit cases are recommended, parties who could afford to pay for attendance.

Fever has committed great ravages in this District, and has caused much pauperism and destitution, of which several appalling instances were given, particularly by the Protestant and Roman Catholic Clergymen. The Subscribers unanimously desire that a Union Fever Hospital should be established, which, along with the Dispensary, should, they say, be supported by a compulsory assessment on the principle of the Poor Rate.

The Subscribers of the Mount Charles Dispensary consider their funds inadequate to meet the necessary demands on them, and though they disburse these funds with the greatest economy, they are in debt to the Treasurer. The Proprietors in this District generally subscribe.

Many unfit cases are here attended; the farmers demand and obtain Dispensary aid on the grounds that they are Cess-payers, and are therefore entitled to it.

The same want of Fever Hospital Relief exists here, as in the former mentioned District, and the same opinions are expressed by the Subscribers in reference to the most advisable means of providing for it, and for Dispensary aid.

The Pettigo Dispensary is similarly circumstanced as to Fever Hospital Relief, and a portion of the funds are judiciously expended in paying Nurses to attend Fever Patients in the residences of the latter. The Subscribers consider the want of Infirmary and Fever Hospital accommodation to be a matter that should be remedied; and they recommend that funds for the latter and for Dispensaries be raised by compulsory means, that all may be obliged to contribute.

The remoteness of the County Infirmary renders it inconvenient to the fit cases occurring

in this Union to be removed there. Some of the Subscribers are of opinion that Infirmaries should be made District, not County, Institutions.

Dunfanaghy Union.

The *Dunfanaghy Union* contains only one Dispensary, which is intended for the three Parishes of which the Union is composed. The Medical Attendant resides at Dunfanaghy, in which the principal branch of the Dispensary is established. He also attends once a-week at a second branch at Cross Roads.

The employment of an Assistant to dispense the medicines, and to attend the Sick in the necessary absence of the chief Medical Officer, appears very desirable.

Fever is stated to exist occasionally in the District. There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, nor is there any in the County to which Fever Patients could be sent. The Subscribers and the Medical Officer consider that the want of such an Institution is an evil that requires to be remedied. In fact the subject has been under the consideration of the local Gentry, who contemplate the establishment of one on a moderate scale.

By a rule of this Dispensary, any Subscriber who recommends an unfit object—a person who has the means of paying for Medical attendance, is obliged to pay 10*s.* 6*d.* to the Institution. This, it is stated, prevents this species of imposition.

The County Infirmary is so remote from all parts of the Union, that only very few of those who require that species of relief can obtain it.

Some Proprietors and other wealthy persons in the District, do not subscribe to the Dispensary.

Enniskillen Union.

There are six Dispensaries in the *Enniskillen Union,* and a portion of another. They are distributed at Ballinamallard, Hollywell, Letterbreen, Lisbellaw, Tempo, and Swanlinbar. Each is attended by one Medical Officer, but the first may be considered a branch of the Lowtherstown Dispensary, both being attended by the same Surgeon.

Notwithstanding this number, the relief afforded in this Union appears to be insufficient.

The Sick Poor of the entire Parish of Enniskillen, and of portions of the contiguous Parishes of Derryvullen and Trory, have no Dispensary attendance beyond that of being prescribed for at the Infirmary when able to go there. But for the more serious cases of illness in a population of about 16,000, no public provision has been made for insuring domiciliary attendance on such of the Sick Poor as are unable to leave their residences. The necessity for such provision was however admitted by all with whom we spoke on the subject.

For the remaining population of about 53,000, the existing means are inadequate. For instance:—

The chief Proprietor and nearly all the Subscribers have withdrawn their contributions from the Hollywell Dispensary, and the Doctor has been ejected from the very wretched cabin in which it was held. This Gentleman admitted that for the last four years the bulk of the Subscriptions was paid by himself, and that a debt of £56 is due for medicines without funds to meet it.

On inspecting the Letterbreen Dispensary it was stated, that the usual annual expense for Medicines was £70, for the past year it was £50; but the place in which the Dispensary is held is a poor small cabin; a press contains the Medicines, the entire stock of which at this time was very small. Some of the most necessary articles were not in it. A large debt was said to be due to an Apothecary in Enniskillen by whom they were supplied; but no invoice or document was produced.

Many unfit cases are sent to the Dispensary. These Patients, it is said, ride there on good horses, and have all the appearance of being comfortable. There are in the District many Proprietors and others of wealth who do not subscribe, but whose tenantry obtain relief, though against a rule of the Managing Committee.

At Lisbellaw, the Medicine in the Dispensary is the residue of the stock which the Medical Officer had in an Apothecary's shop which he kept previous to his appointment to this Institution. No Medicine has been yet supplied from the funds, and as the late Treasurer owes a debt of £30, the Doctor fears he is not likely to be paid. He states that he is much harassed by being obliged to attend unfit objects who are recommended to him, persons having ten or twelve cows, with good horses and other stock.

A Subscriber, the Rector of a neighbouring Parish, states that several large Proprietors in the District do not subscribe to the Institution; yet their tenantry and domestics are attended.

At the inspection of the Swanlinbar Dispensary it was stated that several Subscribers have lately refused to pay their usual contributions, (amongst whom is a Nobleman that usually gave £10 annually, and a Clergyman who gave £5,) in consequence of some dispute which took place at the election of the Medical Attendant. Many unfit cases are recommended.

Many Proprietors in this District could never be induced to subscribe. Medical aid is now refused to the tenantry and others living on these properties.

Under such circumstances it is unlikely that one-half the Sick Poor of this Union can obtain efficient Medical Relief.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, but the want of that species of relief is stated to be much felt.

Several Subscribers advocate that funds for Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals should be raised on the principle of the Poor Rate.

In the year 1840, Subscriptions and a County Grant were obtained with the view of

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establishing a Fever Hospital in Enniskillen. But these funds have been expended, and though a few Fever Patients are admitted into an old house, which is not well calculated for such a purpose, they are obliged to supply themselves, or are supplied by their charitable neighbours, with such necessaries as they require, and no adequate Institution has yet been provided, a circumstance which was greatly regretted by the Rector, Roman Catholic, and Presbyterian Clergymen, and several other benevolent Gentlemen who accompanied us to the house alluded to.

The Fermanagh Infirmary is sufficiently within reach of all parts of the Union to admit of Patients being removed to it; and, whenever there is a vacancy in it, fit objects are received. It contains 36 Beds, and the Surgeon limits the Patients to about that number. Fit objects are often refused, not for want of room, but of funds, as the house is capable of containing 50 Patients.

The number in fact is so limited as to meet the state of the funds.

It is much to be regretted that in a County like this, in which the Infirmary is very central, any fit objects should be excluded, whilst the Hospital contains accommodation for them.—The funds arise chiefly from County Presentments, and Treasury Grants; the Subscriptions are very small, being in the last year only £21, paid by one Life Governor.

Glenties Union.

The *Glenties Union* contains three Dispensaries, which are not judiciously distributed.

The Killybegs and Ardara Dispensary has three branches, one at Dunkenelly, one at Ardara, and a third at Killybegs. The Surgeon resides at Dunkenelly, at nearly the extreme South point of his District, which comprises an area of 50,373 acres, and a population of 15,922. From this, his residence, to Ardara, at the North end is a distance of eleven (Irish) miles, and a large portion of the District said to be attended by him, extends some miles still further northwards. In this part of the District, the Town of Glenties is included, but though the centre of a Union, it has neither an independent Dispensary nor a branch of one. Again, Dunkenelly to Killybegs, the site of the third branch, is a distance of seven miles.

How impossible it must be for one so circumstanced to do justice to the Sick Poor of such a population may be readily conceived.

In consequence of the inefficient attendance in the Ardara portion of this District, several have withdrawn their Subscriptions, and express much anxiety to be enabled to locate a Medical Officer there, stating that no adequate domiciliary attendance is now given.

The Medical Officer of the Killybegs and Kilcar Dispensary resides in the Town of Killybegs, at the extreme S. W. point of his District, which comprises an area of 34,466 acres, and a population of 8,606. But in fact this Institution is intended, beside, to give relief to the parish of Glencolumbkill, but in which no visits are paid, and in consequence, the Proprietors and others connected with it have intimated that they will withdraw their Subscriptions. One Proprietor offered to add £10 to his, on condition that domiciliary attendance be given in this parish, which was refused.

A branch of this Dispensary is held at Kilcar, which appears to be the most convenient place for the Medical Officer's residence.

Between these two Dispensary Districts lies a portion of the parish of Inishkeel, which is excluded from both, and which, as well as Glencolumbkill, obtains no efficient Dispensary relief. These contain a population of 6,312.

We cannot avoid remarking that as Killybegs is the head quarters of the Medical Officer of a public Dispensary, it appears unnecessary that a branch of another should be held there, especially as the northern part of the Ardara Dispensary District would seem to be more in want of it.

The Dunglow Dispensary has three branches, one at Dunglow, one at Guidore, the third at Burton Port, at the latter of which the Surgeon resides. Were his residence fixed at Dunglow, he would be very central, and more within reach of the great bulk of the population.

Between the Dunglow and Ardara Dispensaries lies the parish of Ballymacward, which is not included in either.

To be enabled to afford more efficient aid in this Union, one of the Medical Officers should, we think, reside at Kilcar, and have branches at Killybegs and Carrick, the second should reside at Glenties or Ardara, with a branch at each place, and the third at Dunglow.

Several Proprietors and others of wealth are not Subscribers. Unfit objects are attended at each Institution, parties who can well afford to pay for Medical attendance.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. Generally the Subscribers express much anxiety that such relief be provided; and as they derive scarcely any benefit from the Lifford Infirmary or Letterkenny Fever Hospital, they state their willingness to meet the expense of the necessary relief in the Union, being freed from contributing to distant Institutions to which their Sick Poor cannot be sent.

Letterkenny Union.

There are two Dispensaries and a portion of a third, that of Kilmacrennan, in the *Letterkenny Union.* One is for a District which contains an area of 62,000 acres, and a population of 20,126; the District of the other only contains an area of 15,286, and a population of 5,754.

In consequence of this arrangement, one of the Medical Officers is not sufficiently occupied, whilst the Subscribers to the other admit that it is quite impossible for its Medical Superintendent to do justice to the Sick Poor in his charge. For want of a more suitable arrangement, therefore, a considerable portion of the Sick Poor of this Union are unable

Letterkenny Union.

to obtain Dispensary relief, which, however, might be afforded by attaching a portion of the larger District to the smaller, or by dividing the larger into two, or by appointing a second Medical Attendant to it, as an Assistant, in which case a part of the Union which is now excluded from any District could be readily provided for.

By a rule of the Letterkenny Dispensary, the Subscribers are expected to state whether the party recommended for relief be able to pay 2*s.* 6*d.* on being visited by the Doctor. £3 7*s.* 6*d.* was obtained from such Patients within a year, for the benefit of the Institution.

No provision is made for attendance on dangerous cases of Midwifery. This is considered a defect in the Institution, as it is stated that some such Patients are known to have died for want of Medical assistance.

The Surgery or Dispensary Shop of this Institution is placed in the Fever Hospital, an arrangement which is liable to two objections—persons who are apprehensive of Fever will not go to the Hospital for advice, in fact, some of the Managing Committee would not go there to hold a Meeting, or for any other purpose; and next, the Dispensary Patients are exposed to the inclemency of the weather in an elevated and very exposed place, without a chair or form to sit on, a circumstance which may be injurious to many of them.

These observations apply generally to Dispensary Shops connected with several Fever Hospitals, and to others where the arrangements for Dispensary relief are not sufficiently provided for.

There is one Fever Hospital in this Union, at Letterkenny, which is capable of accommodating about 20 Patients. It was built for a Cholera Hospital. It is intended by the Subscribers to add two Infirmary wards to it, and they expect that the expense of supporting that class of Patients will be met by the profits of the local Loan Fund. But their opinion is, that it should be compulsory on the Union Authorities to provide Fever Hospital and Infirmary as well as Dispensary relief.

It is but justice to the Subscribers to the Letterkenny Dispensary and Fever Hospital to observe, that they evince the greatest anxiety to provide adequate relief for the Sick Poor, and that some of them, the Messrs. Stewart, in particular, possess very considerable knowledge of Medical Statistics, and have devoted much attention to the wants of the Sick, and to the principles and details of such measures as would be most likely to meet these wants.

Infirmary relief is obtained by a portion of the fit cases occurring in this Union; but though Lifford is only thirteen miles from Letterkenny, others, equally in need of it, are unable to obtain admission into the County Hospital.

Lisnaskea Union.

There are four Dispensaries in the *Lisnaskea Union.* They are judiciously distributed, and are sufficient for the wants of the population—33,868.

A Fever Hospital has been lately established at Lisnaskea, under the patronage of Colonel Crichton, who is the Proprietor of a large part of the Union, and who munificently contributes to all the Charities in it.

The Hospital is given Rent free by Colonel Crichton, it is capable of accommodating 15 Patients, and if experience shows that a larger is necessary it is his intention to provide it. The present Funds for it arise from £100 donation from Colonel Crichton, £41 2*s.* from different individuals, £200 from the local Loan Fund, £100 County Presentment, and £30 7*s.* 6*d.* Subscriptions. We feel it our duty to insert the Correspondence which took place previous to the establishment of this Hospital.*

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* Correspondence relative to the establishment of a Fever Hospital at Lisnaskea.

(CIRCULAR.)

Crom Castle, July 22nd, 1840.

DEAR SIR,—As the boundaries of the Lisnaskea Poor Law Union are now settled, it is my intention (if possible) to establish a small Fever Hospital near the Town of Lisnaskea, for that Union, and to call upon the landed proprietors, *within the Union*, to aid in establishing and supporting it; the want of such an Institution has led to the spread of contagion through the Country to a frightful extent, especially during the last year.

In order to obtain accurate information as to the extent of Fever, I have applied to the Medical Men who attend the different Dispensaries *within the Union*, a copy of whose communications I beg leave to send annexed. It appears by their returns there have been 583 cases within the last year, at those Dispensaries.—The Medical Men attending them agree in thinking a Fever Hospital a most valuable Institution, and one much wanted. It is useless for me to state, when a Fever breaks out, the Farmer or Cotter has no alternative but to remain in the house, and frequently in the same, small, ill ventilated room, with the sick person, consequently the inmates run the risk of taking infection, thereby causing, perhaps, the ruin of the family, as well as a *certain pecuniary* loss to the Landlord. There have been several instances in this neighbourhood during the last year, where the whole family were carried off by Fever; and some, within my own knowledge, where they took refuge in huts, built under the fences, on the Mail Coach road leading to Enniskillen.

It is, therefore, my desire to erect a building for the accommodation of Fever Patients in the Union, where they will meet with proper care and Medical advice. As the Union will not be a very large one, the sick will not have far to go—a covered cart for the purpose of conveying them, will always be in readiness at the Hospital.

The Committee of the Lisnaskea Loan Fund have granted £200 to assist in the erection of a House, and I hope the Landed Proprietors in the Union, will come forward in aid of this humane and desirable object, so that we shall have Funds to erect a suitable Hospital for the District,—the building and furnishing of which must amount to a considerable sum.

It is my intention when I receive answers from all the Landed Proprietors in the Union of Lisnaskea, to call a Meeting of the Subscribers. You will, therefore, much oblige me by sending an answer as soon as may be convenient, stating what sum you will allow me to put your name to for the erection of a Fever Hospital, as also, what you will please to subscribe annually for the support of the Establishment, and I trust you will see the great necessity for such accommodation in this part of the Country; by your subscribing you will confer a blessing on your Tenantry as well as on the Poor of the District.

I beg to remain, Your's truly,

JOHN CRICHTON.

In July, 1841, one year after this correspondence took place, one of the Assistant Commissioners received a note from Col. Crichton, of which the following is an extract:—

Newtownbutler, April 24th, 1840.

DOCTOR THOMPSON begs to inform Colonel Crichton, in reply to his letter relative to a Fever Hospital being established at Lisnaskea, that such an Institution would be attended with incalculable advantage, not only in arresting the progress of disease in the neighbourhood and amongst families, but lessening the fatality by removing the unfortunate sufferers, and having them immediately under the care of the Medical Attendant.

Since the opening of the Newtownbutler Dispensary, in the year 1833, there have been upwards of *Five Hundred* cases of Fever attended to at the Institution, eighty of which have occurred from the first of January last, mostly all of a very bad type, and generally accompanied with symptoms which distinguish putrescency—consequently, from the wretched hovels in which they occurred have proved more than ordinarily fatal.

Maguire's-bridge, 23rd March, 1840.

SIR,—In reply to your communication of the 19th Inst., which I had the honor to receive on last evening only, I beg leave to state that Fever has been very prevalent in the Town of Lisnaskea and its vicinity for a considerable time. Having carefully examined my Dispensary Registry for the past year, I find that the number of Fever cases in Lisnaskea and its immediate neighbourhood amounted to 130, and in the more remote parts of the District to 68.

Besides those there have been several incidental cases of paupers, who, having been refused admittance into houses, were obliged to erect temporary tents about the highway, where medicines could not be properly administered. I may also be permitted to remark, that in many of these cases, Fever has been fostered and kept up from confinement in small and badly ventilated cabins, where the sick could not be separated from those who were in health; under such circumstances, the utility, and the great necessity of a Fever Hospital, in or near to Lisnaskea, as being the central part of the Poor Law Union, would, in my opinion, be the best means of arresting the progress of Fever, and of benefiting the Poor generally throughout the District.

I have the honor to be, Sir, with the greatest respect, Your obedient Servant,

To COLONEL CRICHTON,
Crom Castle.

T. M'NEICE, *Surgeon, R. N.*
Medical Superintendent of Lisnaskea and Maguire's-bridge Dispensary.

Brookboro', April 15th, 1840.

SIR,—In answer to your enquiry concerning the prevalence of Fever during last year, in this neighbourhood, I beg leave to acquaint you that, from the 9th of December, 1838, till the 9th December, 1839, the number of patients under pure Typhus Fever admitted, were 125; in most cases one or two of the junior branches of the family had passed through the Disease prior to my attendance. In private practice a good number of Fever cases were under my care, of which I made no return.

The number of eruptive and other secondary Fevers are not included in the above list, which were numerous. With respect to Fever Hospitals, there is no doubt but they would be highly useful in preventing the spread of contagion, and procuring cleanliness and comfort which the Poor stand in great need of. I think every Parish should have an Hospital connected to the Dispensaries, with wards in it, both for Fever cases and others, requiring the daily attendance of a Medical Man; a trifling increase in the grant to Dispensaries would be enough to support them. Any other information, if required, will be forwarded to you by your obedient Servant, &c.

JOHN WEST.

To COLONEL CRICHTON, Crom Castle.

DEAR SIR,—In the month of October, 1833, in reply to certain queries from Government, I stated my opinion very fully, as to the absolute necessity of having more Fever and Surgical Hospitals in the country than there are at present, as those in the county Towns are of very little advantage to the Poor residing at a distance from them; my experience since, amply confirms the view I then formed of the subject. Within the past year I have given advice and medicine to at least One Hundred and Eighty persons in Fever, residing in the Barony of Knockninney and Parish of Kinawley, many of them in a most deplorable state of destitution—obliged to live in huts built at backs of ditches or under shelter of bog banks, as they were either refused admittance into dwelling-houses, or summarily ejected when I have informed the family of the nature of the disease.

Many cases of peculiar severity have come under my notice, viz. where entire families consisting of from five to ten individuals, have been infected and confined to bed at the same time, and no person to attend at the Dispensary for them, or bring their Medicine, until I had prevailed on some nurse-tenders to take charge of the wretched people; but I could enumerate many such cases if requisite.

A very strong point proving the utility of Fever Hospitals is, that the Police, in the discharge of their duty have been infected to an alarming extent, in Enniskillen, Swanlinbar, and Black Lion Stations; the men were obliged to vacate the Barrack in Swanlinbar, in consequence of a highly malignant Fever breaking out there; I believe the same took place in Enniskillen last autumn. Five men out of seven had Fever at the Black Lion Station. I could multiply instances in favor of the establishment of Fever Hospitals generally, and am certain every sensible man will see how useful such Institutions must be to the country at large.

I remain, dear Sir, very truly, your's,

WM. MAXWELL WADE,
April 1st, 1840. *Medical Superintendent of the Swanlinbar and Derrylin Dispensaries.*

Clones, July 23, 1840.

DEAR SIR,—It has long been my opinion, that if there were any one Establishment more particularly adapted than an other to the peculiar condition of Ireland, to meet the poverty, wretchedness and ravages of infectious disease in this country, it would be that of District Fever Hospitals.

Under this impression, I recommended the Gentlemen of this country, after the cessation of Cholera here, to allow the Hospital then erected, to remain open for such Fever cases as might be sent to it—their friends supporting the patients—the poor were glad to avail themselves of it; immediately the advantages of the thing were seen, subscriptions came in, the Committee of the Loan Fund gave a grant, and the Grand Jury were so pleased with the working of it that they gave a sum equal to double the amount of subscriptions, which they are by Law empowered to do. I have often wished that I could invite the Gentlemen of the country to inspect the Hospital, though from the infectious nature of the disease I was unwilling to do so, in order to show them the amount of practical good brought about by their subscriptions. It is truly gratifying to see creatures, taken out of their ill-ventilated wretched abodes, and placed in the spacious, well-aired, and regularly kept wards of an Hospital, with every proper care and attention, and to witness the improvement which immediately takes place, even previous to undergoing any Medical treatment whatever. I think it may be fairly estimated, that for every 100 cases brought to Hospital you save 500 taking the disease; as we know among the Poor that once Fever gets into the house, it is seldom even one member of the family escapes.

I have never known anything established in the country so universally popular, both with Subscribers, Patients, and the people at large, considering it a common blessing. Although our Hospital is only calculated for 20 beds, we have been obliged this year to accommodate, on an average, 30 Patients. In our first Report, which includes

APPENDIX (D.)

Reports of Assistant Commissioners.

" Col. Crichton begs to enclose a circular which he sent to all the landed Proprietors in the Union, but he regrets to say that as yet, he has had very few Subscribers."

As far as the capabilities of the Enniskillen Infirmary admit, the fit objects in this Union obtain relief there.

Lisnaskea Union.

Some Proprietors and other wealthy parties are not Subscribers to the Dispensary of the District with which they are connected. It is the opinion of several, that the funds for Dispensary and Fever Hospital relief should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate, and that a sufficiency cannot be obtained in any other manner.

Lowtherstown Union.

There are three Dispensaries in the *Lowtherstown Union*, besides a portion of the Ballinamallard Dispensary District. They are fairly distributed, and appear to give sufficient relief to a tolerably dense rural population of 32,198.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, nor any within reach of it, into which persons affected with contagious diseases could be admitted.

The Subscribers and Medical Attendants to the Lowtherstown and Trillick Dispensaries state, that the want of such an Institution is much felt.

Several of the Subscribers wish that the funds for Dispensary and Fever Hospital Relief should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate, as in no other way is it likely that a sufficiency can be had, or parties be induced to contribute who possess property in the District, several such being non-Subscribers.

Infirmary relief is obtained at Enniskillen to a fair extent, but it is stated that a few beds in the Union would be a great convenience, and that Patients would take the advantage of them, who will not go to Enniskillen.

By a rule of the Lowtherstown Dispensary the tenantry of non-Subscribers are not entitled to its benefits. Here, as at Trillick, those who are able to pay moderately for Medical attendance obtain it, on being recommended by a Subscriber. At Trillick it is afforded on the following terms:—

	s.	*d.*
Fee for visit on Subscriber's ticket, - - - -	2	6
If certified too poor to pay that fee, reduced to - -	1	0
Midwifery cases by day, - - - - - -	5	0
Do. by night, - - - - - -	10	0

The predecessor of the present Medical Officer of this Institution is paid a pension of £15 a-year. A Proprietor subscribes £25 per annum on this condition.

Milford Union.

The *Milford Union* contains five Dispensaries, which are well distributed, and are sufficient to meet the wants of the Sick Poor of a population of 29,000.

The chief Proprietors of the Rathmullen District subscribe to the Dispensary there, but some not in proportion to the extent of their property in it. Parties who are wealthy, but who are not landlords, do not subscribe.

The funds of the Institution are considered insufficient to meet the wants of the Sick Poor.

A few obtain Infirmary relief at Lifford, but its distance, 22 miles, and other circumstances, render it comparatively useless to the Sick of this Union.

The Subscribers and Medical Officer suggested that the funds for Dispensaries and Fever

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a period of about 18 months, 113 persons were admitted, in the next year 124, in the following 152, and in the present, from the 1st January up to this date, a little more than six months, 163 have been admitted, making a total of 552, of which number only 36 have died, or about 1 in 15.

I remain, dear Sir, Your's, very truly,

J. T. HURST, M.D. *Half-pay Surgeon of the Army,*
And Medical Superintendent of the Clones Dispensary & Fever Hospital.

To COLONEL CRICHTON,
Crom Castle.

July 15, 1840.

DEAR SIR,—I have not had time to reply to your Letter respecting the establishment of a Fever Hospital for the District, comprising the Union of Lisnaskea, until this day.

That the arrangements necessary for carrying into effect the Poor Relief Act, would be the means of facilitating the introduction of other local measures for the amelioration of the condition of the people, and for the prevention as well as the direct relief of destitution, has always been my opinion; and it gives me much satisfaction to find my expectation about to be realized at so early a period, under your auspices, in the Lisnaskea Union.

Fever and destitution are mutual causes, acting and reacting upon each other; if you lessen the field and growth of the former, you will thereby relieve and *prevent* the latter, and *vice versa*. Leaving the common feelings of humanity out of the question, and those higher and holier motives that ought to influence us, it is self-evident that it is now the direct pecuniary interest of all classes, especially the landed Proprietors, to prevent and check disease as being the most prolific source of destitution. I know an estate that has fallen one-fourth in value, from the unchecked visitation of Fever.

In those Unions where no Fever Hospital accommodation exists, I have recommended Workhouse-room for a larger per centage on the population, than I would otherwise have done.

I met five instances last year in the County Fermanagh, where the inmates of Fevered hovels had fled to the roadside, and struck up a kind of Wigwam, composed of an upright stick, at the back of a ditch, and a lock of straw. This is an evil that must soon fall *by its own weight*, and if we wish to have the remedy applied by us, instead of, in spite of us, the sooner we commence the better.

Fever Hospitals can only afford relief within a very circumscribed distance, therefore it is obvious that we want District, not merely County, Fever Hospitals.

Your's, my dear Sir, with respect, very truly,

C. G. OTWAY,
Assistant Poor Law Commissioner.

LT. COLONEL CRICHTON, Crom Castle.

Hospitals should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate, and that some Infirmary beds be added to Union Fever Hospitals.

Fever has prevailed much, and the want of access to any Fever Hospital has been much felt. No Patient has been sent from this to the Fever Hospital at Letterkenny. Some unfit objects obtain Dispensary aid.

Milford Union.

The Gentry of the Rathmelton District have very creditably converted a house which had been built for a Cholera Hospital into one for Fever Patients; it is capable of containing 21 beds, (some of which are intended for accidents). The Patients in it are supported by the profits of a Local Loan Fund. The Institution is considered to be very necessary, but the Subscribers are of opinion that this fund cannot be safely reckoned on, and they think that a more certain mode of raising funds for these purposes should be devised. They also state that the County Infirmary is not sufficiently available for the fit cases occurring in this District, and expect that a more satisfactory arrangement will be provided when the Union Workhouses are in operation.

Some of the Absentee Proprietors of this District do not subscribe to the Dispensary.

The Medical Officer of the Mevagh Dispensary resides in Milford, entirely out of his District. And as a part of the latter is at a considerable distance from that place, it is not likely that the domiciliary attendance can be satisfactorily performed.

The Sick Poor of the District derive no benefit from the Letterkenny Fever Hospital, and but little, the Medical Officer states, from the County Infirmary.

The Kilmacrennan District, though within six miles of Letterkenny, and about nineteen of Lifford, is said to derive but little advantage from the Institutions at either. The Rector and Physician there are favorable to such arrangements as would ensure each species of relief in and at the expense of the Union.

A portion of this District is in the Letterkenny Union.

The Clondavaddog District being still more remote from Lifford and Letterkenny than either of the former, derives less benefit from the Institutions at these places. The local Gentry and the Physician are favorable to Union Institutions, and state that the want of Fever Hospital relief is an evil that requires to be remedied.

Stranorlar Union.

The *Stranorlar Union* contains two Dispensaries, and a portion of a third, that at Raphoe. These may be supposed sufficient for the wants of the Sick Poor, of a population of 23,459. But some of the Subscribers to the Stranorlar Dispensary state, that they sometimes refrain from giving recommendations to fit objects, from a feeling that the funds are not sufficient to remunerate the Medical Officer.

From this feeling, it probably arises that the number here attended is few, compared with that which has been returned at other Dispensaries.

The Subscribers to this Institution all concur that Fever Hospital relief is necessary, and *that it should be compulsory on the Union authorities to provide it.*

Fever exists in the Union, but none affected with it are sent to any Fever Hospital.

Infirmary relief is obtained by some of the fit objects at Lifford, but not by all that require it.

The Subscribers are of opinion, that it should be provided in the same manner as for Fever Patients.

They also advocate the creation of some superior controlling and regulating authority, in preference to a local one, not to interfere, however, with a proper local committee.

The Subscribers and the Medical Officer of the Killygordan Dispensary consider Fever Hospital accommodation to be necessary; none from the District receive such relief.

Some Proprietors and others in this District do not subscribe to the Institution. Yet many who have no property in it contribute from friendship for the Medical Officer.

Ballina Union.

The *Ballina Union* contains seven Dispensaries, but a considerable part of one, that at Dromore West, is in the Sligo Union. As the area of this Union is 507,000 acres, and its population 115,000, this number of Dispensaries cannot afford its Sick Poor the necessary relief. Besides, the arrangements regarding two appear not to be satisfactory.

The Ballina and Castleconnor Dispensaries are attended by a Physician, who is also in charge of the Fever Hospital. The population of both Districts is 30,303. We believe no Medical man could attend half the Sick Poor of such a population, and that the relief afforded is very insufficient. Several circumstances convince us of this. The stock of Medicines at both places was scanty, and the arrangements such as to lead us to suppose that the quantity dispensed is small. Besides, the number to which relief is stated to be given is inconsiderable, compared with the population and the sum expended. The Dispensary Patients at Ballina are only in the proportion of 1 to 11¼ of the population, and at Castleconnor as 1 to 11. The Physician is paid £139 10*s.*, for his attendance on both these Dispensaries, and the Apothecary £63 10*s.* The cost of Medicines was £48 4*s.* 3*d.* For attendance on the Fever Hospital the Physician is paid £50, the Apothecary £30, and £10 is allowed to the former for supplying it with Medicines, but these Medicines are given from those kept in the Dispensary. Thus the public derive no benefit from this £10, which in fact, is only so much added to the Doctor's salary.

The Physician then receives £209 10*s.*, and the Apothecary £100, per year; yet it has been stated that no inconsiderable part of the attendance at the Castleconnor Dispensary is performed by an Apprentice, or an Assistant of the latter.

A large portion of this Union, at least one-third, is beyond the reach of any Dispensary.

APPENDIX (D.)

Reports of Assistant Commissioners.

Ballina Union.

An Institution of that kind at Bangor, and another at Ballycastle, appear to be much wanted.

The Crossmolina and Killala Dispensary Districts appear far too large, the population of the former being 18,410, of the latter 24,584.

The Dispensary at Crossmolina is considered by the Subscribers to afford much benefit, but they regret that its funds are now insufficient for the support of a few Surgical Patients, which, from the remoteness of this District from Castlebar, it was found very convenient to treat in beds provided in the Dispensary. We were informed by some resident Proprietors, that when the Poor Rate is levied, they "will not feel called upon to subscribe, considering a Rate off property as portion of the Poor Rate, would be the most equitable and certain mode of supporting Medical Charities," which they suggested should be managed by a Local Board.

Many unfit persons are said to obtain Dispensary relief here; the recommendations are given them by the sub-agents of non-resident proprietors.

The Medical Attendant pays an Apothecary out of his own salary. We think this Officer should be appointed and paid by the Subscribers.

The Killala Dispensary, from the amount of its funds, is capable of being a useful Institution, and we were informed that much relief is given to the Sick Poor from it. We were, however, surprised at the appearance of the Dispensary, which is a miserable out-house in the rere of the Medical Attendant's residence, and for which a rent of £6 a-year is charged. The stock of Medicines bore no proportion to the amount charged for them, (£92 10*s.* in the last year,) in addition to which a further sum of £9 18*s.* 6*d.* was paid a few days before our visit, for the Medicines of a deceased shopkeeper in the Town. The Medical Attendant has an Assistant, who is paid £20 a-year, and whose only qualification is a diploma in Midwifery.

A small house in the Town was some time ago rented, and a balance of the Dispensary Funds remaining in the Treasurer's hands appropriated for the support of a few Surgical cases. This fund is now exhausted, and the Subscribers express much regret that in consequence the Hospital is at present unavailable.

The landed Proprietors were applied to for a contribution for the support of this Institution, but without effect.

In the extreme Western part of the Erris Barony there are two Dispensaries, one at Belmullet, the other at Binghamstown.

These two Dispensaries, within two miles of each other, cannot possibly supply sufficient Medical aid to a population of 22,665, spread over an area of 250,253 statute acres.

The Belmullet, or Erris Baronial Dispensary, has been supported by Subscriptions, county presentments, and a grant of £100 from the Mansion House Committee in 1831, which has been drawn in small sums, from time to time, and is now entirely exhausted.

Since the opening of the Dispensary at Binghamstown, several residing in that village, and in the Parish of Kilmore, have withdrawn their Subscriptions from the Belmullet Institution; this, coupled with the fact, that the principal Proprietor does not contribute, induces the present Subscribers to apprehend a considerable diminution in the funds.

The Medical Officer of the Belmullet Dispensary is resident, and we believe efficient in the discharge of his duties, but he complains that he is unable, from the extent of his District, to give all the relief necessary, and consequently that many cases, particularly Midwifery, have been lost from want of Medical aid. The Binghamstown Dispensary was established in 1840, in consequence of the too great extent of the Parish of Kilmore, to admit of sufficient relief being given by that at Belmullet.

The Subscriptions, chiefly given by the middling classes, are insufficient to meet the necessary expense, the Treasurer is in advance; and we were informed that many of the landed Proprietors do not contribute. For these reasons, the Subscribers expressed a wish that "the Poor Law Commissioners should direct the attention of the Legislature to the Medical Charities of Ireland, in order that wealthy Proprietors, who do not contribute, may be compelled to do so."

The Subscribers of the Binghamstown Dispensary are entitled to, and obtain advice and Medicine gratis, in lieu of their Subscriptions, which though contrary to the intentions of the Legislature, is perhaps necessary under the circumstances. This Dispensary cannot yet have afforded much relief, as the Medical Officer partly resides at Castlebar, which is 50 miles distant from Binghamstown.

There is a Fever Hospital at Ballina which is capable of containing 16 beds; there are 11 now in it. It is a dwelling house which has been converted to an Hospital. In 1840, 155 Patients were relieved in it, of whom 138 resided within five miles, twelve between five and ten miles, and five beyond ten miles. It is merely a Local Institution, whose advantages are chiefly confined to the Ballina Dispensary District. Though the Towns of Crossmolina and Killala are each within six miles of Ballina, very few from either obtain relief at this Hospital. A population of at least 90,000 in the Union has no access to any Fever Hospital. The want of such relief is considered to be very injurious.

There is no Infirmary in the Union. From those parts of it which are situated most contiguous to Castlebar, Patients are sent to the Infirmary there, but from the greater part of the Union but few can be sent on account of its remoteness. The want of this species of relief is much felt.

Ballinasloe Union.

There are six Dispensaries in the *Ballinasloe Union;* a seventh, which existed in Ballinasloe

for many years, has been lately discontinued, leaving the Sick Poor of a population of 15,674 without any Medical Relief, except that which is afforded by the liberality of Lord Clancarty, who pays a Surgeon for attendance on his tenantry and on the Sick of the Town and suburbs.

Ballinasloe Union.

The above number of Dispensaries can be scarcely sufficient for a population of 97,581, even though the Funds and the attention of the Medical Men were not diverted to unfit objects. This, however, is not the case, as at the Killane and Killyon Dispensaries, farmers holding from 40 to 200 acres, and parties considered to be worth £500 or £600 in cash, obtain the benefits of these Institutions. The same abuse is complained of at all, except at the Ballygar Dispensary.

The Medical Officers are all resident, and are considered to discharge their duties satisfactorily.

The Owner of the Ballygar estate very liberally built a good Dispensary house, which is given at a nominal rent.

Several Proprietors in the Ballinasloe, Killane, Aughrim, and Killyon Districts are not Subscribers to the contiguous Dispensaries, which is also the case with Occupiers whose circumstances are considered to be such as would enable them to assist in the support of such a Charity. The Subscribers to these four Institutions, some of them the chief owners, strongly advocate that the Funds should be raised off the Union on the principle of the Poor Rate, in order that a sufficiency may be obtained, and that the Proprietors and Occupiers may be all compelled to contribute.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. During twelve years one existed at Ballinasloe; this is now closed in consequence of the want of Subscriptions. It is however, certain that this Institution as well as the Ballinasloe Dispensary will be immediately re-established if power be given to raise Funds for them in the manner above mentioned.

The want of Fever Hospital Relief is equally felt in each Dispensary District in the Union, and several express a wish that the Funds should be raised in the same manner as for Dispensaries.

At Killyon a Fever Hospital was about to be established lately, but the subject has been postponed in the hope that such legislation may soon take place as will charge the support of it on the Union or District, by compulsory taxation.

Here, Fever Patients are put into a hut, and supported by the charity of the neighbours. When the epidemic subsides, the hut is burned. This *make-shift* for a Fever Hospital, is not confined to this locality, but is to be met with in many parts of Ireland.

From the County Roscommon portion of the Union, Patients obtain ready admission into the Roscommon Infirmary, as far as its accommodation admits; but as Galway is very remote from that part of the Union which is situated in the County of Galway, containing a population of 89,000, the extent of relief obtained by its Sick Poor at that Institution is very inconsiderable. On this subject we were requested by several of the large Proprietors, to record it as their opinion that the Galway Infirmary is nearly useless to this portion of the County.

The expression "total inutility" was that made use of by some, who, however, admitted that the Hospital and its Medical Officer stand high in public esteem. But they state that it is perfectly irrational to expect that so remote an Institution could be of any avail to their tenantry or neighbours. They advocate the establishment of a District Institution at Ballinasloe, where Fever Patients, and Surgical and Medical cases, could be treated with convenience and economy.

Ballinrobe Union.

There are six Dispensaries in the *Ballinrobe Union.* Three are attended by resident Medical Officers; those in charge of the other three are non-resident.

The Surgeon of the Neal and Cong, and of the Fairhill Dispensaries resides at Ballinrobe, which is five miles distant from the former, and seven from the latter Dispensary. He attends the Neal and Cong Institution twice a-week, and that at Fairhill once. The population of the first is 14,460, of the second, 8,685. This Gentleman is most indefatigable we believe in the discharge of his duties, but these, to be efficient, would fully occupy two resident Medical Men.

The greater part of the Partry District, is at least seven miles from Ballinrobe, where the Medical Attendant also resides.

The Surgeon of the Claremorris Dispensary is also in charge of that at Ballyhaunis, and cannot possibly do all the justice that could be wished to either.

The arrangements for the Ballinrobe and Hollymount Dispensaries would appear satisfactory, a superior Medical Officer and one who dispenses the Medicines and occasionally attends the Sick, being connected with each. The second Attendant of the latter Dispensary is expected to visit the Sick in the first instance, and to call on the other if necessary.

At Claremorris the Subscriptions are chiefly obtained from Occupiers. The names of Twenty-five extensive Proprietors whose tenantry receive relief, were mentioned to be non-Subscribers; Twenty-one of these are absentees, or non-residents. A few years ago a large Proprietor promised to pay £18, but the promise was not fulfilled, nor has he since subscribed. The Gentlemen who attended the Meeting state that they subscribe beyond their means, because the contributions of the Landlords are so deficient. They all advocate that the Funds should be raised as a part of the Poor Rate, and suggest that two-thirds be charged on the Owners.

At Hollymount the funds have decreased this year, partly by the removal of Subscribers, and partly by some having reduced their Subscriptions.

Ballinrobe Union.

Several unfit objects are stated to be here recommended; and some of the Subscribers are attended gratuitously.

There is no Registry of the Patients kept at the Ballinrobe Dispensary, though there are two Medical Officers employed; one at £120 salary, the other at £16, and the Porter at £6. The cost of Medicines, £82 2*s.*, appears very considerable, as the population of the District does not exceed 13,108, and as on examining the stock on hands it was very scanty, the bottles and drawers being nearly empty, and the shop arrangements indifferent.

There is no Committee of Subscribers to supervise the Institution, no books of record, nor any audit of accounts.

In the Cong and Neal District it is stated that many Proprietors and other wealthy persons are non-Subscribers.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union. In each Dispensary District the want of such an Institution is much felt, and several of the Subscribers are anxious that such relief should be provided in the Union.

The Infirmary at Castlebar gives free admission to all fit cases sent from the County Mayo portion of this Union, when there are vacant beds; but the remoteness of Galway renders the Infirmary there of little use to the remaining population.

Castlebar Union.

There are three Dispensaries in the *Castlebar Union;* but the population of one, that at Castlebar, is too large, 29,689, and the Medical Officer of that at Turlogh resides at Castlebar, a distance of six miles. Both these Gentlemen appear to discharge their duties faithfully, but it is to be expected that a large proportion of the Sick in each District must be unprovided with domiciliary relief. A Dispensary existed at Islandady, but no Funds are now raised for it.

The Balla and Ballyglass Dispensary appears to be well managed.

In at least half of this Union, the advantages of domiciliary Dispensary relief are not obtained by the Sick Poor.

It is stated that many Proprietors in each District are not Subscribers, that several wealthy persons do not contribute, and that the Subscriptions of some are inconsiderable compared with the extent of their properties.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, the want of it is every where considered to be a great evil; but such an Institution is not likely to be established under the present mode of raising Funds.

The Medical Officer of the Castlebar Dispensary, in his Report for 1841, observes—"I feel called on to suggest to the Committee and Subscribers, should the Funds admit of it, the necessity and great benefit, the erection of a Fever ward would confer, containing from ten to fifteen beds; to make it a part of the Dispensary establishment. I should most cheerfully give my professional attendance without additional expense; it would confer a two-fold benefit, first by a timely separation, secondly, it would save the Union the expense of maintaining many widows and orphans in the Workhouse."

We have perceived a strong disposition on the part of many Dispensary Surgeons to give gratuitous attendance on Fever Hospitals in their Districts—partly, we believe, from a feeling that their own labours would be lessened—a circumstance which is universally acknowledged, but, chiefly from a higher and better motive, the desire of being connected with an Institution which would contribute much to the relief of the Sick, and in which their own knowledge of disease would be sure to be considerably improved.

The Castlebar Infirmary contains 47 Beds, and, though quite insufficient for the wants of a population of 366,000, is a very well managed Institution, and affords considerable relief in proportion to its funds and accommodation.

The Surgeon resides in a house immediately connected with the Hospital, the property of the Institution; the Apothecary resides in the latter.

The expenditure for the year 1840, was £1,329, £800 of which was raised by County Presentment, £89 1*s.* 10*d.* obtained from the Treasury, and £289 derived from interest on stock. The Subscriptions amounted to £9 9*s.*, there were no donations. The Institution is therefore, almost entirely supported by Public Funds. The amount of Bank Stock is £3,200 in the Irish, and £1,217 in the English Funds.

The Surgeon pointed out some Patients who might be done full justice to by any competent Dispensary Doctor, and regretted that such should be admitted. In reference to this he states in one of his Reports that he may have "to contend with the entreaty of a wretched applicant who may have travelled from ten to twenty miles, and who may be more a subject for a Poor House than an Hospital, or labour under so trifling a disease, that a short and regular attendance at an efficient Dispensary would effect a cure." But he adds, "a refusal in such case often *displeases* the Governor recommending, and subjects to a journey of many miles the unfortunate applicant; but in justice to the Institution, the Surgeon ought not to admit a trifling case where a serious one presents." To remedy this occurrence he suggests that the Certificate of the Medical Attendant of the Dispensary District in which the Patient resides, should be forwarded with the applicant. This, to a certain extent, would be of use.

The Surgeon adverts to the Temperance movement, observing that "the number of accidents admitted within the last six months affords proof of a manifest disposition in the habits of our Peasantry, so that this Institution has clearly and unequivocally felt the blessings of Temperance, and I am disposed to believe, that we will soon experience a decrease of diseases of other forms amongst the Poor, from the humane and benevolent exertions of the promoter of that virtue."

Fit objects are occasionally refused admission for want of room.

Clifden Union.

The *Clifden Union* contains only one Dispensary, which is not sufficient to afford relief to the Sick Poor of a population of 28,639, spread over an area of 191,426 acres. Three such Institutions would be necessary for the District.

There is no Infirmary or Fever Hospital within the Union, and though the County Infirmary is almost entirely supported by County grants, and the Galway Fever Hospital partly so, no benefit whatever is derived from either by the residents of this Union. The remoteness of Galway, 40 miles, renders it physically impossible for such Patients to be removed to it.

The Subscribers to the Clifden Dispensary are favourable to each species of relief being afforded within the Union, and at its expense.

Several Proprietors and others of wealth, do not contribute to the Dispensary: some of the Subscribers suggest that the funds be raised in a compulsory manner, so that all should bear a fair proportion of the expense.

Galway Union.

The *Galway Union* contains five Dispensaries, one of which is for the Island of Arran,* for a population of 3,191. The other four would extend over a population of 80,000, were the entire Union included in one or other District, but such is not the case. For instance, the Parish of Moycullen, which contains a population of 5,695, is not within any Dispensary District. Four Dispensaries, with five Medical Attendants, could not possibly give satisfactory relief to the Sick Poor of the Union, even though Arran were excluded.

The Galway Dispensary is in charge of two Medical Attendants, one of whom is also Surgeon to the Arran Dispensary, which he occasionally visits.

The Kilcolgan, Outerarde, and Annaghdown Dispensaries are each attended by one Medical Officer. But each District is too large for one individual.

The residence of the Doctor of the Annaghdown Dispensary, is most inconveniently placed at the extreme side of the District, which is so undefined or so large, that it is stated to extend no small distance beyond Headford.

The arrangements for Dispensary relief in the Island of Arran, appear to be injudicious. A Physician residing at Galway makes a monthly visit there, and an unqualified Assistant, who is paid £40 a-year, resides in the Island. As it is stated that the practice of the Island is inconsiderable, we may suppose that this sum must be insufficient remuneration for the latter; but we are of opinion that a qualified and competent person could be had for £100, who would reside in the Island.

Several Proprietors and others in comfortable circumstances in each Dispensary District do not subscribe. The funds are considered to be scarcely adequate to pay a moderate remuneration to the Medical Officers, and to purchase Medicines; yet persons in very comfortable circumstances are recommended for, and obtain, relief.

The Medical Officers and Subscribers at each Dispensary state that very few from their Districts are enabled to obtain admission into the Galway Fever Hospital, and that the want of such relief causes considerable distress and destitution. Generally the wish is that Dispensary and Fever Hospital aid should be afforded at the expense of the Union.

At the Rural Dispensaries it was stated, that admission into the Galway Infirmary is difficult to be obtained, and that the wants of the fit cases amongst their Sick Poor are not sufficiently provided for by it.

The Galway Infirmary is a large Institution intended for the County of Galway, but not for the County of the Town in which it is situated. By a rule of the Governors, Town cases are not to be admitted, but this rule is not strictly adhered to. It contains 54 Beds, and the number usually occupied is 37. On a subsequent occasion when this Hospital was casually visited, it contained only 25 Patients, and the Surgeon stated that the funds would not support a greater number. The house is capable of containing 70 beds, and it is stated by the Surgeon, that if funds were available, these would constantly be filled with fit cases.

The Hospital is almost entirely supported by public funds; only one Subscription, amounting to three guineas, was obtained in the last year.

Fit cases are frequently refused for want of funds, as the Governors square their expenditure to their income.

As this Hospital is capable of conferring far more benefits on the community than its present arrangements admit of, and as it does not meet the wants of the Town, and of even a moderate extent of the County around the Town, it appears very desirable that its capabilities should be turned to account. It should at least be made to afford Hospital relief to all fit objects in the County of the Town;† but some legislation is required to effect this.

The duties of the Surgeon are said to be very faithfully performed, and the character of the Hospital stands very high.

The Medicines are compounded and dispensed by an unqualified person.

There is one Fever Hospital in this Union. It is chiefly intended for, and chiefly supported by, the County of the Town of Galway. It contains 40 beds, and could accommodate 48 Patients; but for want of funds, or rather to economise the funds, the Committee lately directed the Physician to limit the number to 25. Since that period, several cases of Fever have been refused, and though 40 beds are considered to be sufficient to meet the ordinary

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* No Application for a Presentment for this Dispensary has been made at the last Road Sessions. The Institution has, therefore, ceased to exist.

† Serious casualties are admitted from the Town into wards in the Dispensary, but though this arrangement is very beneficial, better room and more funds are much required.

demands, 25 are admitted to be too few. The greater number would not be sufficient for the wants of the Union.

At the time this reduction took place, no exertion was made to obtain Subscriptions for the purpose of keeping up the necessary number of beds.

Galway Union.

The Institution is entirely supported by public funds; during the year 1840, there was a grant of £400 from the County of the Town of Galway, and £150 from the County. In consequence of this last Presentment, County Patients are admissible.

For want of funds the supply of sheets and of other articles is insufficient.

Some of the Governors are of opinion that the funds for the Hospital should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate, as none but Occupiers now contribute towards it.

The admissions into this Hospital in 1840, amounted to 514, of whom 526 resided within five miles of Galway, 32 between five and ten miles, and 10 came a greater distance than ten miles. This shows how small a proportion of those who are benefitted by this Institution come from the County.

In a large portion of this Union there is no Fever Hospital relief.

Gort Union.

The *Gort Union* contains only one Dispensary, which is superintended by a Physician who prescribes, and an Apothecary who dispenses the Medicines. It has two branches, one at Gort, the other at Ardrahan.

The area of this Union is 89,828 acres, and its population 38,342. The entire is included in this Dispensary District, which contains an area of 104,882 acres, and a population of 38,830.

To give tolerably efficient attendance on the Sick Poor of such a population, at least three Medical Attendants would be required. The Medical Officer very fairly states that it is impossible thathe can give domiciliary attendance to all that stand in need of it, and the Subscribers who attended the Meeting at which we were present agreed with him.

The Surgeon of this Dispensary acts as Treasurer to his own Institution, but it was stated at a Public Meeting of the Subscribers that he never was appointed to that situation. There is no record on the books that any such appointment had ever been made.

On this head, we feel it right to give the statement made by a Committee of the Grand Jury, at the last Spring Assizes, who observe—"with regard to the Gort and Ardrahan Dispensary, no affidavit has been made by the Treasurer, but in lieu thereof, the Surgeon of the Institution annexes a document to the Account, purporting to be an affidavit made in that capacity, which does not appear to have been sworn before any Magistrate." It is but right to add, that a Gentleman who was present at our Inquiry, stated that he saw the Doctor swear the affidavit in Court; but the following remark of the same Grand Jury Committee was not contradicted or explaineed—"also, no verification is attached to the account of the expenditure by the Treasurer, Committee, or any other person."

The Report of this Committee concludes with the following, which we feel it our duty to quote:—"Your Committee cannot conclude this Report without recommending in the most earnest manner to the Grand Jury, the Magistracy, Cess-payers, and public generally of the County, an increased vigilance at the Sessions at which application in aid of Dispensaries are made, as the result of their Inquiry leads them to the painful conviction that extensive abuses exist in these establishments, which, when duly administered, afford the most timely and useful aid to the sick and indigent of our County."

Having been informed that the present Medical Superintendent paid his predecessor a sum of £400, in consideration of the latter vacating the situation in his favor, we asked him if such had been the case, observing, that if he felt any difficulty in answering the question, it would not be pressed; when he admitted that he did pay a sum of £300 on that occasion. We believe this practice to be of frequent occurrence, and that its effects are, in several respects, very injurious, particularly by preventing competition in the selection of the Medical Attendant, as the friends of the retiring individual, from a desire to benefit him, in general support the Candidate with whom they understand such an arrangement is made, and in this manner we have no doubt that the best qualified is defeated, and perhaps, the worst elected. In this instance, however, the Medical Officer's qualifications are very good.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union. The want of such an Institution is stated by the Subscribers and Medical men to be a great evil. The distance to that at Galway prevents any Fever cases from being removed there. A Local Hospital is considered necessary; and a Subscription was lately made with that view, but the Grand Jury refused to make a Presentment.

It is stated by the Committee that they apprehend there will be few Subscribers to the Dispensary when the Poor Rate comes to be paid.

Some relief is obtained by the Sick of this Union in the Galway Infirmary, but its remoteness and want of funds, render it comparatively insufficient for the wants of many who are fit objects for such an Institution.

There is no public provision for attendance in difficult Labour cases, and instances were given of such Patients having died for want of Medical attendance; a distressing circumstance, but which is rendered more so in a District where the Gentry subscribe very liberally for the relief of their Sick Poor.

Loughrea Union.

There are three Dispensaries in the *Loughrea Union*, which contains a population of 61,747. They are in charge of three Medical men who cannot possibly attend the Sick Poor sufficiently. Five would, probably, be fully employed in affording the necessary relief.

There is no such Institution in Loughrea, the chief Town and the centre of the Union; a Dispensary which existed there having lapsed from want of Subscriptions.

Loughrea Union.

The Medical Attendant of the Kiltulla Dispensary resides at Loughrea.

The extent of this Dispensary District, and the remoteness of the Superintendent, must necessarily render his services comparatively insufficient.

The area and population of the Athenry Dispensary District are only of moderate extent, and as the Surgeon resides in it, the duties are said to be satisfactorily performed. The Portumna District is not well defined, but its population is too large to enable a Medical man to attend all its Sick Poor with efficiency, though the Gentleman in charge of it gives all the satisfaction which circumstances admit of. A considerable tract of country in the Union is not included in any Dispensary District.

In each of these Dispensary Districts, many Proprietors and other wealthy persons do not contribute to the Local Charity. Hence, the Subscribers, generally, are anxious that such legislation shall take place as will secure steady and sufficient funds, raised equally off all, particularly as it is apprehended that some of the present Subscriptions will fall off. At Athenry, a letter from an extensive Proprietor was read, refusing a Subscription, as he "objects to Dispensaries as the Law now exists."

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union; the want of this species of relief is much felt throughout each District. At Loughrea, a sum of £250 was raised by Subscriptions, with the view of establishing one there, and a County Grant in its aid was applied for, but refused by the fiscal authorities. The Subscription fund is lodged in Bank, and the Subscribers state that they will await the result of such legislation as may follow this Inquiry.

At Portumna, the spread of Fever amongst the Poor has caused so much injury, that a benevolent Lady residing in the neighbourhood lately offered a free site on which to build an Hospital, and a donation of £100; but it is considered advisable to wait until some legislation takes place, particularly as it is apprehended that under existing circumstances, even though the house were built, Subscriptions for the support of Patients could not be obtained, as there are many wealthy Proprietors in the District who do not subscribe even to the Dispensary.

The remoteness of the Portumna side of the Union from Galway, 34 (Irish) miles, renders the County Infirmary of little, scarcely, it is said, of any, use to the Sick in that District. Some in the Loughrea and Athenry divisions are admitted into that Institution, but the want of such relief is felt throughout the entire Union.

Parsonstown Union.

The *Parsonstown Union* contains five Dispensaries, and one Fever Hospital. A sixth Dispensary, which was held at Lorrha, has ceased to exist for want of funds, probably because parties who might be otherwise induced to support it were not disposed to subscribe, as the Medical Officer resided at a distance of eight miles. This leaves the Sick Poor of a population of about 10,000 without any such relief.

The funds for the Kinnetty Dispensary are at present greatly diminished, and will, it is considered, be very likely to decrease still more when a Poor Rate is levied.

Many Proprietors in the District are not Subscribers.

The Frankford Dispensary is similarly circumstanced as to funds, which are much diminished this year, and the Treasurer states that he will be obliged to advance a large sum in order to keep up the Institution, which however he and the other Subscribers apprehend must eventually be closed from want of Subscriptions.

There are in the District many Proprietors who do not subscribe to the Dispensary, although they have been frequently applied to.

The Ferbane Dispensary is a well-managed Institution, but the District for which it is intended, containing an area of 76,517 acres, and a population of 18,308, is by far too extensive. A branch at Seven Churches would considerably increase its utility, provided an Assistant were employed to attend there.

The funds are insufficient to remunerate the Medical Officer, but there is a resolution by which no Subscription less than a guinea can be received. It is stated that many unfit cases are recommended by Subscribers who, although remonstrated with, have not discontinued this abuse. Several Proprietors do not subscribe, though a resolution to prevent their tenants from obtaining advice or medicine was made, but from motives of humanity is not acted on.

The Banagher Dispensary affords sufficient relief, but there is much want of a Fever Hospital, and many efforts have been made to have one established; a Subscription was lately got up for that purpose, but its amount was not considered sufficient to fit up a house. The Subscribers at present state that they expect some legislation will soon take place, which will enable them to provide such relief in their District.

The Parsonstown Dispensary is a well-managed Institution, and the stock of Medicines and of surgical instruments is very respectable.

There is one Fever Hospital in the Union, at Parsonstown; it is capable of accommodating 40 Patients, but contains only 29 Beds. It is a very efficient Institution, and is made available for Patients from the contiguous part of the County Tipperary. This Institution however, is not at present sufficient for the wants of the Union, as in the other Dispensary Districts it is stated that such relief is much wanted. The Hospital however is open to all cases of Fever.

The County Infirmary at Tullamore admits Patients from the King's County portion of the Union, whenever there are vacancies; but the distance from the southern portion of it to that Town prevents its being sufficiently available. On this account the Governors of the

Parsonstown Union.

Parsonstown Dispensary and Fever Hospital have very judiciously authorized the Medical Officer to admit surgical cases, when their admission does not exclude the more legitimate objects. This practice has been found very beneficial, and is much approved of by the Subscribers. A population of 15,135, composing the County Tipperary portion of the Union is entirely excluded from Infirmary relief, being about forty miles distant from Cashel.

73 such Surgical Patients were admitted into the Parsonstown Fever Hospital in the year 1840, which proves the great utility of this practice.

The number of Fever cases in the same year was 316. The average annual admissions into this Hospital during the years 1839 and 1840, was 348; 299 of these resided within five miles of Parsonstown, 88 between five and ten miles, and 11 beyond ten miles.

Swineford Union.

There are three Dispensaries in the *Swineford Union*, which are for a population of 53,126. The remaining population 12,739, is included in the Tubbercurry Dispensary District, in the County of Sligo.

It is impossible that efficient attendance could be given to the Sick Poor of the County Mayo portion of the Union, by any three individuals: yet "many unfit persons" obtain that attendance, as well as the Medicines which should be exclusively reserved for those who are unable to pay for them.

The Swineford Dispensary Subscribers have passed a resolution that their Medical Officer shall attend such Patients at their own residences, as are unable to afford the ordinary fees, and that these shall pay a sum of 5*s.* or 10*s.* according to their circumstances in life. The total sum so received in the year 1840 was £25, which is paid to the Treasurer of the Charity, and entered by him as a Subscription, on which Subscription a corresponding sum is claimed of the fiscal authorities, and is obtained from them; and the persons who may have given any such fees are, along with their families, entitled to attendance and medicines for the remainder of the year.

As those who pay these fees obtain an adequate return for them, we should suppose the sum so received cannot be considered as one *bonâ fide* subscribed. But, if the transaction be irregular, the circumstances of the case and the objects in view must be taken into account.

This practice, it is observed, is on the increase here; it is one which also prevails in other Districts, and affords proof that under more favorable circumstances and judicious arrangements, many of this class would contribute a fund for insuring for themselves independent Medical aid.

The Physician to the Swineford Dispensary expresses an opinion, that when the Poor Rate comes to be paid, Subscriptions will in a great measure cease.

Many Landlords, both resident and non-resident, are not Subscribers; yet their tenantry obtain relief, The Institution is well managed.

The Surgeon to the Foxford Dispensary resides at Swineford, six (Irish) miles from that Institution. The stock of Medicines kept there and at another branch was scanty; although £78 17*s.* 11*d.* was charged under this head within the past year, and it was stated that 30 cwt. of Medicines had been procured from Dublin during that period; and further, the place in which they are kept in the former was in such a delapidated state that it appeared dangerous for any one to go into it.

The Subscribers to this Charity state that they contribute to it on the Surgeon's account; their support therefore, should he vacate it, is not to be calculated on. They are strongly in favor of any measure which would insure steady funds, to be raised off the property of the District, in which they are joined by the Subscribers to the Swineford Dispensary.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, nor any within reach of it. Such an Institution is considered to be very necessary.

When vacancies exist in the Castlebar Infirmary, Patients from this Union are freely admitted; but the relief is insufficient to meet the wants of that class of Patients.

Tuam Union.

The *Tuam Union* contains five Dispensaries. Two of the Districts are much too large, one being for a population of 17,752, the other for a population of no less than 39,450.

The Tuam Dispensary is in charge of two Medical Officers, a Surgeon who acts as the superior, and another who dispenses the Medicines, and gives occasional attendance on the sick. This attendance however, must be of a limited nature, perhaps chiefly confined to the immediate neighbourhood of Tuam, as he only visits at any distance when the recommending Subscriber provides him with a means of conveyance. The superior Officer and his Assistant perform their duties faithfully, but it is physically impossible that they can attend the fit objects in a population of 39,000.

Many Proprietors and other wealthy persons connected with this District are not Subscribers, but their tenantry get relief.

It is apprehended that the Subscriptions to this Institution will diminish by one-half when the Poor Rate comes to be levied. But if Fever Hospital accommodation with a few casualty beds were provided, it is thought funds would more readily be obtained; and it is suggested that these funds should be disbursed under the management of a local Board composed of the Guardians, Clergymen, and a certain number of the higher Rate-payers of the District. It is considered desirable that the funds necessary for the support of the Dispensary should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate.

The Headford District is also too large for one person to attend.

The Committee of this Institution strongly advocate a competent inspecting authority over all Medical Charities, some past local circumstances having, it would appear, shown them that such a power is very necessary.

The Proprietors in this District generally subscribe to the Charity, and but few unfit objects are recommended.

In the other three Dispensary Districts, many wealthy parties, Proprietors and others do not subscribe, and persons in comfortable circumstances are recommended for, and obtain relief.

Tuam Union.

In Milltown, though the Medical Officer resides and is paid £80 per year salary, and his house rent is paid for, the Institution is only open for applicants on one day in each week; and the Subscribers state that though they consider the funds to be sufficient for the services performed by the Doctor, yet, if he could be better paid, they would require him to visit more than he now does. The conclusion is, that this portion of the duty is not adequately performed.

The Medical Officer of the Dunmore Dispensary resides at Tuam, about eight (Irish) miles from his Institution. He visits it but once a-week,—his salary is £100 per year. An unqualified person resides at the Dispensary, who is paid £40 per year, and who receives £60 for attending another Dispensary eight miles distant. He is paid £8 10*s.* for horse hire, at one of these Institutions, and £12 10*s.* at another.

The following is the year's expenditure at this (the Dunmore) Dispensary :—

Doctor's Salary,	£100	0	0
Apothecary's Salary,	40	0	0
Medicines, (kept in the same shop with the private Medicines of the Apothecary,)	50	10	11
Carriage on ditto,	3	10	0
Rent of the house in which the Apothecary resides,	13	0	0
Porter,	6	0	0
Turf,	12	0	0
Lard,	9	18	9
Horse hire for Apothecary,	12	10	0
Calico,	2	8	6
Printing, &c.,	1	17	0
Total,	£251	15	2

Some of these items are worth examining. At least 17 cwt. of Medicine would be carried from Dublin to Tuam for £3 10*s.* £12 worth of Turf, in the centre of a peat country, appears an enormous quantity to be consumed for Dispensary purposes; and we are satisfied that three or four such Institutions well managed do not use the quantity of lard which is charged for in this Account.

Some of the Dunmore Dispensary Subscribers are of opinion, that on the payment of Poor Rate, the Subscriptions will be much diminished. They wish the funds to be raised compulsorily, on the principle or as a portion of the Poor Rate. At Monivea, a similar feeling prevails.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union, but the want of it is everywhere stated to be much felt; and an anxiety was expressed that such relief should be provided.

From those parts of the Union next to Galway, Patients are sent to the County Infirmary, but from the more remote Districts a few only are enabled to obtain that species of relief. In order to remedy this, two beds are attached to the Tuam Dispensary, where accidents and other bad surgical cases are treated; and were funds available, it is stated that a greater number would be provided, and are much wanted.

Westport Union.

The *Westport Union* contains four Dispensaries, one of which, for the Island of Achill, has been lately established. The population of the Achill District is 5,277. For the remaining population of 72,275 there are three Medical Officers, one at Westport, one at Newport, the third at Louisburgh. Each is considered to perform his duties diligently; but it is impossible that either can attend one-half the cases of Sick Poor occurring in his extensive District. The only mode in which this could be satisfactorily effected would be by the appointment of a second Medical Attendant to each of the Westport and Newport Dispensaries, as an Assistant to the present Physician. This, however, is an arrangement which is not likely to be adopted under present circumstances, as the feelings of the Subscribers for the Medical Officer in charge strongly militate against it.

The Louisburgh District is so very poor and so bare of Gentry, or even of tolerably comfortable farmers, that it would not support a second Medical man.

There are several Proprietors and other wealthy persons connected with each of the three Districts, who are not Subscribers. Could their contributions be had, the funds would be sufficient to pay a second Medical Attendant.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. The want of it is considered to be a great evil. The Subscribers are favorable to a Union Institution, and to the funds for Dispensary and Fever Hospital relief being paid out of the Poor Rate.

The County Infirmary at Castlebar is considered to be sufficiently contiguous for surgical cases, which obtain admission there very freely.

It was stated on the day of our Inquiry at Westport, that the Noble Proprietor of that Town gives the munificent subscription of 50 guineas per annum to the Dispensary; a considerable portion of which is entered in the Treasurer's book in the names of certain of the inhabitants. This is not an unusual practice.

Athlone Union.

The *Athlone Union* contains five Dispensaries, which are in charge of five Medical Officers. The funds of the Athlone (Co. Westmeath) Dispensary are so limited that no salary has

Athlone Union.

been paid to the Medical Officer within the year. The Attendant of the other, Athlone (Co. Roscommon) Dispensary, is paid the balance of the funds after the liquidation of the other expenses—a practice which is but too likely to lead to abuses, though in this instance such is probably not the case. The Physician to the third, at Brideswell, resides in Athlone, which is 5 (Irish) miles distant from the centre of his District. He has besides a branch at Athlone.

It is stated that the Subscriptions to these two Institutions are chiefly contributed by the friends of the Medical Officers, and obtained by their influence.

In every District, several Proprietors and others in comfortable circumstances, are not Subscribers, and some who were have lately ceased to subscribe; one was instanced, who has a property of £2,000 a-year, in St. Peter's Parish, Athlone.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union; the want of it is stated to be very injurious, and a strong desire is expressed that such relief may be afforded within it. At Moate and Athlone many Subscribers advocate that the funds for Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals should be raised by compulsory means, on such principle as will throw the expense equally on all.

The Mullingar Infirmary is said to be nearly useless to the Westmeath portion of the Union —being 24 miles (Irish) distant. Some are sent from the Roscommon side to the Roscommon Infirmary, but want of room in the Hospital, the distance to it, and the difficulty of procuring a Governor's order, render it of less value than the wants of the Sick demand.

A considerable portion of the Union is not included in any Dispensary District.

On the whole the relief in much of this Union is very insufficient.

Boyle Union.

The *Boyle Union* contains four Dispensaries; the arrangements for Medical attendance are not satisfactory, and the relief afforded is very inadequate to the wants of the Sick of the Union.

The Medical Officers of the Cootehall and Croghan Dispensaries reside in Boyle, each place being 5 (Irish) miles distant from that Town. Dispensary attendance is afforded one day in each week. This arises from the paucity of funds, which would not remunerate these Gentlemen for a more frequent attendance. But they visit the sick when necessary, and it should be observed, that they give far more relief than they are compensated for, and that they stand high as men of benevolence and intelligence.

At the Croghan Dispensary no domiciliary attendance is expected, "except on the recommendation of the Clergymen." When this rule was passed, the Roman Catholic Clergymen were Subscribers; they have since ceased to subscribe, and the Protestant Clergymen are now the only parties that can recommend. It is considered that, under this arrangement there is not sufficient domiciliary attendance.

The stock of Medicines at the Cootehall Dispensary is small; many necessary articles are wanted. The Doctor gave notice to the Treasurer, and to some of the Subscribers to that effect; yet, no meeting has been held, nor any order given to provide them. The funds are insufficient to purchase Medicines, or to pay the Physician.

It is impossible to induce a *quorum* of the Subscribers to meet, even when it is known that the Institution is in want of Medicines.

Though the Parish of Kilronan contains only a population of 6,940, and an area of 14,696 acres (*terra firma*), the Dispensary is only intended for about two-thirds of it; that is, for the tenantry of one large Proprietor, and of a few others who subscribe. "A portion of the District is unattended, because the Landlords do not subscribe," was the expression made use of at a meeting of the Subscribers.

The tenants of this Proprietor, rich and poor, receive all the benefits of the Institution; parties having a dozen cows, for instance, are recommended.

The Boyle Dispensary is attended by two Physicians, and an Apothecary dispenses the Medicines. The Institution gives relief chiefly within the Corporation; all the Rockingham tenantry outside are attended at the private expense of the Noble Proprietor. To these, Medicines are given from the Dispensary, but as some Landlords in the District do not subscribe, their tenantry are not attended.

Within the Corporation, bad Midwifery cases are attended; the Dispensary funds paying 10*s.* 6*d.* per case; it is considered that some of this class on the properties of non-Subscribers suffer for want of Medical Relief.

Vaccination was never performed here as Dispensary duty, nor has Cow-pock matter been supplied to the Institution.

The supply of Medicines is indifferent; the funds, it is stated, cannot afford a sufficiency; quinine, for instance, and other Medicines which are often required, are not obtained from this cause.

Unfit objects, persons possessing 200*l.*, 300*l.*, and some 1,000*l.*, are here recommended.

The Landlord of Boyle subscribes the munificent sum of 50*l.* to this Dispensary; and, as before observed, he pays for attendance on the rural portion of his estate, yet we find the Institution circumstanced as above described. There are only ten Subscribers to this Institution.

The Medical Gentlemen appear to discharge their duties faithfully, as far as, under these circumstances, they can do so.

Many Proprietors, and other wealthy persons in the other Dispensary Districts, and some in this, are not Subscribers. At Cootehall it was stated that many of the Subscribers have declared that in consequence of the payment of Poor Rate they will not contribute again. When this Dispensary was established, the friends of two rival candidates subscribed a sum of 214*l.*, those of the defeated one withdrew next year, and the successful candidates' friends have since gradually ceased to subscribe.

Boyle Union.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. The want of such an Institution is considered to be a serious evil. The general opinion is that one should be established at Boyle.

The Subscribers generally advocate that the funds for Dispensary and Fever Hospital Relief should be raised on the principle of the Poor Rate. In that case the Nobleman above alluded to would be at less expense than at present, whilst the non-paying Proprietors and other wealthy parties would pay a fair proportion, and the means of affording the necessary relief to fit objects would be ensured. This is the opinion of several Subscribers.

A large portion of the Union, probably one-third, is not included in any Dispensary District.

Those parts of the Counties of Roscommon, Mayo, and Sligo, which compose this Union, are so remote from the Infirmaries of their respective Counties, that they are said to derive little benefit from them; and the objects which require this species of relief are said to be unable to obtain it elsewhere.

Carrick-on-Shannon Union.

There are three Dispensaries in the *Carrick-on-Shannon Union;* portions of three others are included in it. The Medical Officers of the latter, however, reside at a distance of five Irish miles from their respective Institutions.

The Bishop of Elphin subscribes £50 per year to the Elphin Dispensary. As the total annual Subscriptions are only £69 8*s.*, the Institution would cease to exist were this very liberal one withdrawn.

The Dispensary was converted into a Fever Hospital about three years ago, but for want of funds no Patients are now admitted into it.

The Subscribers here are of opinion that the funds for medical relief should be raised as a part of the Poor Rate.

The Dispensaries in the County Leitrim portion of the Union appear to give the necessary relief, but from the remoteness of the residences of the Medical Officers of those in the County Roscommon, the infrequency of their visits, and the want of funds, the Sick Poor cannot be sufficiently attended.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union. At each Dispensary meeting it was stated that the want of such an Institution was much felt, but that subscriptions could not be obtained for the purpose.

Infirmary Relief is obtained at Carrick-on-Shannon, by that part of the population which belongs to the County Leitrim. But a still greater population belonging to the County Roscommon—37,727—is too remote from the Infirmary of its own County to derive any considerable advantage from it; and though some from this part of the Union are admitted into the Leitrim Infirmary, as the relief thus afforded is a matter of favor, it is very inadequate to the wants of the Sick.

The Medical Officer of the County Leitrim Infirmary, and some of the Governors, are favorable to such legislation as would make Infirmaries available for the Sick Poor of such portion of a contiguous County as may be sufficiently convenient to the Institution, which would thus be a District one, and, no doubt, would be far more useful than it can be at present. It appears irrational to provide relief for those who reside at so remote a distance, though in the same County, that they cannot bear removal to it, whilst to such as are so near as to be able to avail themselves of it no sufficient facility is afforded.

It is stated by the Subscribers to the Dispensaries, that some proprietors and other wealthy parties do not contribute to the funds; and they therefore advocate that these should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate—"if," as one observed, "the good of the Sick Poor be the object in view."

They also observe that there is reason to apprehend that the subscriptions will fall off when the Poor Rate comes to be paid.

The Carrick-on-Shannon Infirmary contains 46 beds for Patients, and there is room for 6 more. It is a very effective Institution, the Governors and Surgeon contributing all in their power to render it so. The number in the house on the day of our inspection was 44, scarcely one of which was a light case—18 of these resided within five miles of the Hospital, 13 between five and ten miles, and 13 beyond ten miles.

In the Report for the year 1840, the Surgeon observes:—"Many poor people completely destitute endeavour to get admission for their mere support, and when the beds have not been occupied, they have not been refused. But the great mass of Patients are composed of those who would not be in a state of destitution, were they in possession of health to perform their ordinary avocations. When the Poor Houses, now in progress, come into operation, the business of the Infirmaries and Dispensaries will be to relieve the industrious portion of the population when afflicted by accident or disease, thus saving them from becoming inmates of the Poor House, and without which they will have no other alternative":— and "it may be seen how much benefit such Institutions are capable of affording to a poor and labouring population. A severe accident to the head of a family, if left without the assistance provided in Hospitals, would inevitably consign the whole to beggary and destitution, independently of the small hope of the recovery of the individual at his own home, even allowing him to be able to procure for a time the best medical attendance." In all contagious disorders, it is evident how much the quantity of disease is diminished by separation and prompt attention; and "in proportion as the spread of disease is checked or diminished, will also be the poverty and wretchedness amongst the poor of the country, thus insensibly, though certainly, reducing the number of persons who would otherwise be obliged to look for help to charity, or in future to the Poor House for relief."

Under the management of this very able and intelligent Surgeon, the character of this Institution stands deservedly high. But fit objects are occasionally refused for want of room.

Carrick-on-Shannon Union.

This Infirmary is almost entirely supported by public funds. No subscriptions were received in the year 1840, the total income being £436 19*s.*

Castlerea Union.

The *Castlerea Union* contains seven Dispensaries, which, for a population of 85,695, under good arrangements, ought to afford tolerably sufficient relief.

The Ballaghadereen and French Park Dispensaries are held by one Physician, who resides at the former place. He appears a very efficient Medical Officer, and is stated to discharge his duties diligently. But his two Dispensary Districts comprise an area of 125,290 acres, and a population of 40,023. He can only attend a portion of the Sick Poor, and does not pretend to do more, for it would be impossible for him to attend more than perhaps one-third of them. The moderate salary which he was promised, is not paid for want of funds.

The Physician to the Ballyhaunis Dispensary resides at Claremorris, where he attends a similar Institution. The distance between both is 10 Irish miles. Their joint area is 111,492 acres, their population 38,058. Here, as in the former instance, the duties, as far as one individual can perform them, are, we have reason to think, very faithfully discharged. But for the same reasons, not, perhaps, above one-third of the Sick can be attended. In justice to the Physician, it should be observed, that he expressed much regret that his District was so extensive, as to render it impossible for him to attend all the Sick Poor.

The Physician to the Glenamadda Dispensary resides at Roscommon, 15 Irish miles from that Institution, and 5 miles from a nearer branch at Dunamon. He visits each once a-week, and supposing him to be as active as possible, the relief given under such circumstances to the Sick Poor of a population of 19,530, and over an area of 62,608 acres, must be very insufficient, as a dense City population of the same amount would be far more than one person could attend.

The stock of Medicines is very scanty, and the arrangements altogether indifferent. The Doctor is himself the Treasurer.

The Medical Attendant of the Williamstown Dispensary resides at a distance of eight Irish miles. He has no medical, surgical, or pharmaceutic qualification, and only attends one day in each week.

The Castlerea Dispensary District contains an area of 66,298 acres, and a population of 23,111, on the Sick Poor of which, probably, two Medical men would find ample employment.

The Loughglyn District is of moderate extent and population.

Under these circumstances, it may with certainty be assumed that one-half the Sick Poor of this Union are not afforded Dispensary Relief.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. The want of such an Institution is universally felt, but the Subscribers state that funds cannot, at present, be had for the purpose.

The Roman Catholic Clergyman at Ballaghadereen stated that the members of a poor family being in Fever, and houseless, he was obliged to pay 1*l.* to the owner of an empty house into which he put them, as otherwise they must have remained exposed to the inclemency of the weather; and that on one of his own servants taking Fever lately, he felt so unwilling to remove her from his house, and so fearful of remaining in it, that he went into lodgings. At Ballyhaunis, a Subscriber who is a Coroner, stated that he had lately been called on to hold an inquest under the following circumstances:—The father and mother of three young children lay in Fever, they had no nurse or grown person to attend them, the house took fire, and on the neighbours coming to their assistance, they removed the father, mother, and two of the children, but the third could not be found, and was burned.

Many of the Subscribers are of opinion that the funds for Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate, being the more equitable mode, and the only one likely to ensure a sufficiency, with a due administration of them.

Some relief is obtained at the Roscommon Infirmary by the Sick Poor of the County Roscommon portion of the Union; but that Institution, from its want of sufficient accommodation, does not afford the necessary relief. The remaining population, about 40,000, is so remote from the Galway and Castlebar Infirmaries, that these Institutions are stated to be scarcely of any use to it.

Granard Union.

The *Granard Union* contains two Dispensaries, one at Granard, the other at Street, in the County of Westmeath, each in charge of one Medical Officer. A portion of another, which is in the Cavan Union, is included in this Union.

Although the Medical Officers in attendance on these two Dispensaries perform their duties diligently, it is impossible for them to attend all the Sick Poor of their respective Districts.

It appears that about one-half of each of the Parishes of Clonbrony, Ardagh, and Columkill, are not included in any Dispensary District; at least, for domiciliary attendance. The want of such relief in the Parish of Clonbrony was feelingly described by a Clergyman who had resided there as its Rector, and who stated that, though he made efforts to establish a Dispensary there, he was unable to induce the proprietary and other wealthy persons to contribute towards it.

Several Proprietors are not Subscribers to the Institutions contiguous to their estates; other parties possessing property in the Union are similarly circumstanced.

Granard Union.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union. The want of it is described to be a great evil. But the difficulty of raising Funds has prevented any progress being made in establishing one. Some Protestant Clergymen* who attended a meeting at Granard very feelingly described many harassing scenes which they had witnessed by Fever having attacked whole families, and causing loss of life and destitution. They strongly advocate that provision be made for such an Institution, in which all present agreed.

There is no Infirmary in this Union, but that at Longford receives a fair proportion of interns from it, always, when there are vacant beds.

Longford Union.

There are six Dispensaries in the *Longford Union,* in charge of six Medical Officers. That number, for a population of 85,652, would not be sufficient under the best arrangements. Four of the Districts are far too large, and one is much too small. The Parishes of Templemichael and Clongesh, and a large proportion of that of Killashee, and Ballycormick, containing a population of about 18,000, is in a great measure excluded from domiciliary relief, though a portion of the second is nominally included in the Keenagh District.

The Drumlish Dispensary has been lately established. It is intended for that part of the Parish of Killoe which lies contiguous to Drumlish. This District was not before provided for, although some of it is by far the most wretched in the County, perhaps in the Kingdom. This fact is mentioned, as affording a proof that in establishing Dispensaries, the comparative necessities of the population are not the circumstances which are usually considered.

There is reason to apprehend, that in the Keenagh Dispensary District, the necessary relief is not efficient. The Attendant resides at Ballymahon, five miles from the centre of a District which contains a population of 14,428. Besides, the arrangements for domiciliary attendance are not likely to afford it in a satisfactory or efficient manner, a circumstance which was admitted by the Subscribers. But this must, almost of necessity, occur whenever the Medical Attendant is non-resident.

It is stated that this Medical Officer paid his predecessor the sum of £300 on the condition of his resigning, and using his influence to have himself elected as his successor; and that the election was held a few days after the resignation took place, and without any publicity being given so as to ensure competition.

The Medical Officer of the Edgworthstown Dispensary is also in charge of the Street Dispensary, in the Granard Union. The joint population is 23,569. He appears to be a very efficient Officer; but he and the Subscribers admit that the outer part of his District cannot be duly attended. The same observation applies to the Surgeon of the Ballymahon Dispensary, in respect to exertions and extent of District.

The Medical Superintendent of the Tarmonbarry Dispensary resides at Strokestown, ten Irish miles distant he only visits it once a week. The population is 13,366, and would probably afford one person sufficient employment, even though residing in the District; and having no other Institution. But this Gentleman attends another Dispensary in an opposite direction, seven miles from Strokestown. The distance between both Dispensaries is 17 miles Irish. Such an arrangement is evidently one to benefit the Medical Attendant,† not to afford the Sick Poor the necessary relief, and is amongst the worst abuses of the present Dispensary system.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union, though Fever has at times prevailed to a considerable extent. The want of such an Institution is considered by many Subscribers to be a circumstance deserving the attention of those who would prevent the occurrence of death and destitution.

Several landlords and other wealthy persons do not subscribe to the Union Dispensaries. Amongst those who have hitherto subscribed, a large Proprietor has lately declared that in consequence of the forthcoming payment of Poor Rate, he will no longer subscribe to the Dispensary. Some, on principle, and in consequence of the refusal of wealthy parties to subscribe, advocate that the necessary funds should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate.

The Longford Infirmary is capable of containing 28 beds; and a ward is being built, which will contain nine. It is thought that when the Workhouses are in operation 37 beds will be sufficient for the County.

At present fit objects are often excluded, from want of room and of funds. Were the room greater, it is thought by the Treasurer that the Grand Jury would not increase the Presentment, which for the sick is £600, for the Surgeon £94.

The Institution was supported in the past year in addition to the County Fund, by a legacy of £49 10*s.* 9½*d.*, a Treasury grant of £80 12*s.* 9½*d.*, and £44 3*s.* the subscription of three individuals.

It thus appears that almost its entire support is from public funds.

A rule of this Institution is well calculated to limit medical relief—it is "that the Surgeon be not allowed to give medicines to any extern more than once upon the same recommendation, unless in an urgent case." The effect of this being to compel the Patient to apply for a recommendation whenever it is necessary he should apply at the Infirmary,

* Two of these Gentlemen, whom we understood to be curates, declared that they would gladly subscribe to such an Institution.

† At the Tarmonbarry Dispensary Meeting, this Gentleman stated that he practised as a London Surgeon and an Accoucheur, but at Ballyleague he said he was a Physician and Accoucheur. This discrepancy excited some suspicion, when he was requested to exhibit his Diploma for either or for both Degrees. He then admitted that he possessed neither, but that he passed the London College of Surgeons as Naval Assistant Surgeon in 1814. On examining the certificate which he obtained on this occasion, the word "*Assistant,*" was found to have been erased.

the inconvenience or impossibility of doing so, will often prevent him from obtaining the necessary advice and medicines. And as there is no Dispensary in the Town of Longford, or for a large population surrounding it, this rule is likely to be productive of much inconvenience.

Longford Union.

The Surgeon occupies a house on the premises, immediately adjoining the Infirmary This house is the property of the Governors, who have expended £600 of the Infirmary funds on it, within a few years. It is sufficiently near the Hospital to be made available for Infirmary purposes, if thought necessary. It affords an instance of considerable available room being occupied by the superior Medical Officer and his family, whilst Patients are excluded for want of Hospital accommodation, and whilst that Officer is paid £183 salary per annum, enjoying besides the advantages of such an Institution.

We feel it necessary to observe, that the Surgeon, Treasurer, and Registrar were the only parties that attended this Inquiry; and that though a notice had been sent to the former a week in advance, requesting that he and the Treasurer would convene a meeting of the Governors, none of the latter attended.

Manorhamilton Union.

The *Manorhamilton Union*, containing a population of 40,742 has in it only one Dispensary, which is intended for a District whose population is 24,309, in an area of 94,000 acres, the Sick Poor of which it is quite impossible that one Medical Man can attend. To show that they are not attended it is only necessary to advert to the small number, 220, visited at their residences, being one per cent. on the population. The remaining population, 16,333, has no Dispensary relief. It may be assumed that the Sick Poor of two-thirds of the Union receive none.

Yet it would seem that funds could be obtained to give more extended relief; for the Subscribers state that "more Subscriptions could be had, if necessary." If these additional Funds were procured, and an Apothecary employed to dispense the medicines, and in the Doctor's absence to attend the Sick, the benefits of the Institution would be greatly increased, as it would leave the latter more at liberty to attend to the more serious cases.

The natural division of the Union into Dispensary Districts would be, to make Manorhamilton, Drumahair, and Drumkeeran, each the centre of one; three Medical Men located in these places would probably find ample employment, under judicious arrangements.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. The Subscribers and Medical Officer at Manorhamilton state that such an Institution is much required in that District.

The Carrick-on-Shannon Infirmary receives all fit cases sent to it from this part of the County Leitrim, when there are vacancies, but its remoteness—23 Irish miles, prevents many from going there. A few Infirmary Beds connected with a local Fever Hospital would, in the opinion of the Subscribers, answer the wants of the Union.

Mohill Union.

The *Mohill Union* contains three Dispensaries, one at Mohill, one at Carrickallen, the third at Ballinamore. Each is attended by one Medical Officer.

The Mohill Dispensary was intended for a population of 36,172; were the duties performed under the most advantageous circumstances,—which would imply that the Doctor resided at Mohill, and that the Dispensary should be open daily,—not even one-half of the Sick could be attended by him.

The arrangements are, however, far otherwise; and the past history and present condition of this Institution, afford ample materials in proof of the necessity of some change in the laws and regulations by which Dispensaries are governed.

A rule of the Institution made it imperative on the Medical Officer to reside at Mohill.

At, or soon after, the election of the present Medical Attendant, the following resolutions were passed by the Subscribers:—

"That, at the establishment of this Institution, the constant residence of the Medical and Surgical Attendant in the Town of Mohill was made an indispensable condition of his appointment.

"That Dr. (——) be permitted to reside out of Mohill, *for six months* from this day, in consequence of the Dispensary being unfinished, and the difficulty of providing lodgings."

The Doctor has resided at Drumsna ever since, a period of about Twenty-one years,—that place being five Irish miles distant from Mohill.

The Inhabitants of Mohill and its vicinity urged the permanence of the Doctor's residence, but several of his personal friends being Subscribers, the influence of the latter prevailed; and the resolution respecting residence has, therefore, since remained a nullity.

The greater part of the Inhabitants of Mohill, of all persuasions, have long ceased to subscribe to the Institution, considering the attendance afforded to be quite inadequate to the wants of the District; and being of opinion that none but a resident Medical Officer could supply these wants.

The Doctor's attendance at Mohill for Dispensary Duties is only on two days per week.

Subsequent to his appointment, the Subscribers passed a Resolution by which he was not expected to visit the Sick of any part of the District, except those within one mile of the Towns of Mohill and Drumsna; and as that population cannot exceed 4000, no gratuitous visits have since been afforded to the Sick of the remaining population—about 32,000.

The Subscribers also resolved, that for each visit beyond a mile from either Town, the Doctor should be paid 3*s.* 6*d.* by the Patient, and 3*s.* 6*d.* from the Dispensary Funds, and, if beyond five miles, double that amount.

The nominal Treasurer is the Rector of Mohill; but the real one is the Doctor himself:

no funds pass through the hands of the former; and it is the latter that swears the Accounting Affidavit.

No Meeting of Subscribers has been held during the last two years.

The Carrickallen and Ballinamore Medical Officers appear to discharge their duties fairly: but the District of each is too large and too populous; the former has a population of 15,000 in charge; the other also attends the Kiltubrid Dispensary. The population of both is 24,348. *Mohill Union.*

In each Dispensary District in this Union some Proprietors and other wealthy persons do not subscribe to those Institutions; and several of the Subscribers are of opinion that the Funds should be raised in a compulsory manner, and as a portion of the Poor Rate.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. The want of it is stated to be a great evil. Some Fever Patients have been relieved in the Mohill Dispensary house, but the funds and arrangements are insufficient for even a very limited number.

Infirmary relief is obtained at Carrick-on-Shannon by a portion of those who stand in need of it, but a still greater portion are unable to get admission from want of room and Funds, and from the remoteness of that Institution.

The *Roscommon Union* contains five Dispensaries and one Infirmary. The Dispensaries are not located relatively with the area and population of the Union, in the manner best calculated to afford sufficient medical relief to the Poor within it. *Roscommon Union.*

Other circumstances induce us to believe that the Medical Charity arrangements of this Union are very deficient.

We learned at each of the five Dispensaries that there are, within their respective Districts, several wealthy Proprietors and others who do not subscribe, while generally the Sick Poor on their properties obtain relief.

There is no record of the number of individuals relieved at the Roscommon Dispensary, the number of dispensations only of Medicine being returned. The Surgeon to this Institution admitted that he received our circular, requesting him to convene a meeting of the Subscribers. This request was not complied with, and the latter only learned by mere chance that any such communication had been received. They subsequently held a meeting, and gave us that information which it would seem their Medical Officer wished to withhold.

Many persons are in the habit of receiving Advice and Medicine at this Dispensary, whose circumstances render them unfit objects for such a charity.

The want of Fever Hospital relief in this locality was forcibly expressed by a Noble Lord who presided at the Meeting, as well as by all the Gentlemen who attended, and several cases of the most heart-rending nature were mentioned, to prove the disastrous consequences of such want.

To meet this evil, a large Subscription was got up some time ago, but the County Grant was refused at the Road Sessions on the ground "that it would not be equitable to tax the County at large for a Local Hospital."

The Cess Payers who rejected this demand were unanimously of opinion that "Local, District, or Baronial Hospitals" would be very advantageous. The meeting (consisting of Grand Jurors, Magistrates, and large Cess-payers,) strongly expressed an opinion that the funds of this Institution (the Roscommon Dispensary) will decline considerably when the Poor Rate is levied, and moreover, that the support of all Medical Charities should in future come from the general Poor Rate, and be administered by a Local Committee, to be under the control of the Board of Guardians, and to which such Committee should be bound to make half-yearly reports of all matters connected with the Institution.

The Strokestown Dispensary District is densely inhabited. Its boundaries are not defined: the Medical Officer states, that he visits at the houses of the poor only when required by the written order of the two Gentlemen who manage the chief property in the neighbourhood: 6,000 Patients are stated to have been relieved in the year, but as no record is kept, the extent of relief must be mere matter of surmise. In the vicinity of this Dispensary, property amounting to £17,000 a-year is held by 27 individuals, none of whom subscribe to it. There is a Resolution to prevent the tenantry on these properties from obtaining relief, but this is partly evaded, inasmuch as those requiring such relief represent themselves to be the tenants of Subscribers.

The Ballyleague Dispensary is held at Lanesborough, (on the Roscommon side) seven Irish miles from the residence of the Medical Officer, who attends one day in each week; it is within a quarter of a mile of the Lanesborough Dispensary. Its appearance, and the stock of Medicine, were calculated to make us believe that the amount of relief given at this Institution is very limited, while from the information obtained we are led to apprehend that but little domiciliary attendance is afforded.

The Medical Officer complains that he has repeatedly advanced the subscriptions of Gentlemen who put down their names, but who never repaid him.

No Register of Patients is kept at this Dispensary.

The funds of the Athleague Dispensary appear to be judiciously disbursed, but the Subscribers state, that as they are unable to sufficiently remunerate the Medical Officer, the domiciliary attendance is restricted.

Here, as well as in all other parts of the Union, the want of Fever Hospital Relief was strongly expressed.

The Medical Officer complained of being required to attend the servants in families of Subscribers, where he was not the attending family Physician.

The Lecarrow Dispensary affords another instance, where from the paucity of the funds and consequently small salary, the Subscribers decline calling upon the Medical Officer to give the necessary domiciliary attendance. The Treasurer states that this Institution has been kept up during the two last years by a recourse to the profits of a Loan Fund with which he is connected; and he and the other Subscribers "are fully of opinion that a tax on the property of the country, after the manner of the Poor Law tax, is the only equitable mode of supplying sufficient funds to support Medical Charities."

As might be expected, we found the Dispensary Shop and Fixtures of an inferior description, and as the Medical Officer resides seven Irish miles from the Institution, (which he attends but one day each week) we cannot doubt that the amount of Medical aid in this District falls far short of its demand.

The Roscommon Infirmary contains 44 beds. It is chiefly supported by public funds, viz., a County Presentment of £1,000 per year, and one of £94 for the Surgeon, and the usual Treasury Grant. It obtains no donation or subscription, but possesses property which brings an income of £92 6*s.* 2*d.* annually. Petty Sessions fines received amount to £33 11*s.*

The expenditure in 1840 was £1,245 17*s.*

The general impression is, that, until lately, the disbursements of this Infirmary were not closely scrutinized, and that its economy was far from satisfactory. But a Nobleman who resides contiguous to it, and a Committee of Governors, have lately commenced a regular system of attendance and supervision, and it is now confidently expected that under their management the funds will be judiciously expended. Considering the sum of £600 sufficient to afford the amount of relief usually obtained in this Institution, we learn that the Grand Jury since this inquiry, has reduced the Presentment from £1,000 (which had been granted for three or four years), to the first named sum.*

Fit cases are occasionally refused admission for want of room. It was, in fact, observed by the Governors, that from this cause they are obliged to double the Patients in some of the beds, and to take lodgings in the Town for some of the intern Patients, ten of whom were so circumstanced at the time we inspected the Hospital. Some of these, as well as other intern cases, appeared to be of a light nature, and such as might perhaps be effectually attended in Dispensary practice.

The Surgeon and his family reside in a portion of the Infirmary, occupying as much room as would be sufficient to give considerably increased accommodation. Whilst the residence of the chief Medical Officer in an Hospital does not interfere with the accommodation or the comfort of the sick, no great objection can perhaps be made to it. But when, as in this and other instances, the sick are excluded, it would seem but reasonable that the latter should be the chief objects to be benefited.

We feel called on to observe that the Surgeon makes use of a garden and field belonging to the Infirmary; whilst no convenient space is left for the convalescents to walk in.

Sligo Union.

There are nine Dispensaries in the *Sligo Union*, a number, under satisfactory arrangements, probably sufficient for the wants of a population of 109,000; but the arrangements under which some of these Institutions are conducted, afford a strong proof of the imperfection of the present system of Dispensary relief.

There are two Dispensaries in the Town of Sligo, to each of which two Physicians and an Apothecary are attached. The population for which these two are intended, is about 26,233, and its area is only 27,937 statute acres. The income obtained for these two in the year 1840 was £666 9*s.* 10*d.*; the expenditure was £621 18*s.* 8*d.* This Income and Expenditure considered, it might be presumed that a staff of six Medical Men would be amply sufficient to give such attendance as might be wanted by the Sick Poor of such a population. This, however, is very far from being the case; the insufficiency appears to be caused by the following circumstances.

First—There is no defined District for either Dispensary, nor for the Medical Officers of either. The Parishes of Calry, St. John's, Kallaspugbrone, and Kilcowen, are included in the District of *each* Institution. The value of the sub-division of labor is, therefore, in a great measure lost, as it must frequently happen, and it is acknowledged that it does happen, that the Physician of each will be found on the same day in the same place, or, perhaps, the same houses. It appears at first view very strange that the District comprised within these Parishes has not been divided, so that the boundaries of each Institution, and the Medical Officer's duties, should be better defined; but were this done, Subscriptions now paid would not be obtained, as many are thought to contribute more or less from a wish to support the Institution of a Medical Man, for whom, or for whose friends, they have a

* Mr. Cusack Rooney and Dr. Borrett, Inspectors of Medical Charities under the Irish Poor Enquiry Commissioners, report of this Institution that "the late Surgeon held the office for more than 31 years, when he resigned with the permission of the Governors, on condition of his receiving a sum of money from the present Medical Attendant, who was then unanimously elected." "There were not any candidates besides the successful one, as the circumstances above detailed were very generally known." What sum was paid by the Surgeon then appointed we have not learned, but have reason to believe that in the year 1839 he sold his interest in the concern to the present Surgeon for £1,000, notwithstanding the following declaration, which the each newly-appointed Surgeon of an Infirmary, or Dispensary, may be called on by the Grand Jury to make:—"I do declare that my appointment to the office of ( ) is totally unconnected with any arrangement between me and my predecessor in such office, and that no arrangement has been made with him to my knowledge or belief, by any person on my behalf." This provision does not prevent the sale of Infirmaries and Dispensaries.

regard. Were the District divided, some of those in each division of it would not, probably, some think certainly, give any Subscription, or would give less than they do at present.

Secondly—The Medical Officers are only expected to visit Patients in Sligo, and within one mile of it. The Sick Poor of a large District around the Town are, therefore, in want of domiciliary attendance, a fact which was broadly stated by one of the Medical Officers, and which was not contradicted, at the St. John's Dispensary meeting.

Thirdly—One of the Medical Officers of the St. John's Dispensary is the Medical Superintendent of the Colooney Dispensary, where he resides, at a distance of seven statute miles from Sligo. That he can take no active share in the performance of the duties of the St. John's Dispensary may be assumed from its remoteness; but even though it were more within reach of him, it is not possible he could do so without neglecting the Sick of the Colooney District, which contains a population of not less than 14,000 in an area of 27,600 statute acres—the Sick of which population it is perhaps impossible for any one individual to attend, even though he be burthened with no other public duties.

It is right to state that the brother of this Medical Officer gives some assistance in attending the St. John's Dispensary; but he is not officially connected with it, and our observations apply to responsible parties.

The Dromore* West Dispensary is attended by a Physician, and an Apothecary. The area of the District, as stated by the Subscribers and the Doctor, is 69,056 acres; its population 20,426. The Physician resides at Sligo, 21 statute miles from the Institution, which he visits once a week; the Apothecary resides seven miles from it, and attends three times a week. The chief Medical Officer is a Gentleman of high character and in very considerable practice, not only in Sligo, but amongst the gentry of this District; and it is but reasonable to presume that when he makes his weekly visit, no small portion of his time will be occupied in seeing private Patients.

The arrangement which would be most certain of ensuring sufficient attendance through the District of Dromore West would be to locate a respectable and competent Medical Man in it. That many such could be had for the funds now expended, no doubt can be entertained.

It is, however, but right to state that the local gentry prefer the present arrangement, which naturally arises from their attachment to the Physician, and from the apprehension that a competent person could not be induced to reside there, in which probably they are mistaken, as the sum now paid to the two Medical Officers, with the expectation of the local practice, would be likely to ensure the residence of a well-educated Physician. And though it is very possible that such person might not for years equal the present Practitioner in character or professional information, yet it may be presumed that he would be enabled to confer more benefits on the Sick Poor, and on the middle classes than the most able person residing at so great a distance.

It should be observed that the gentry in this District individually act on the supposition, that the present arrangement is the best, and not from any interested feeling. It should also be stated that the Physician and Apothecary appear to discharge their duties faithfully, as far as circumstances permit.

The Physician to the Riverstown Dispensary resides at Sligo, ten Irish miles from it.

The Superintendents of some Dispensaries are not expected to visit the Sick Poor at their residences when the latter are unable to leave them.

The Medical Officer of the Ballymote Dispensary is not expected to pay domiciliary visits as Dispensary duty. In a year, however, he visited, as a matter of favor, 66 Patients. At the Carney Dispensary, the Doctor is only expected to visit a quarter of a mile from the Town.

Under all these circumstances Dispensary Relief appears to be insufficiently afforded in a considerable portion of this Union.

Many unfit objects are recommended at some of these Dispensaries; parties in very comfortable circumstances obtain relief, whilst the Funds of the Institution are considered inadequate to meet the fair demands on them, *i. e.* to pay for medical attendance and for Medicine.

Several Proprietors and other wealthy parties, are non-subscribers in each District, except one; whilst some, as Mr. Cooper, Lord Palmerston, Sir R. B. Gore, and others, contribute very liberally.

At some, the Subscribers are favorable to such Legislation as shall ensure a sufficiency of Funds, raised on an equitable principle, so that all may be obliged to contribute.

There is one Fever Hospital in the Union, at Sligo; it was built at the joint expense of E. S. Cooper, Esq. and of the County, the former contributing the munificent sum of £1500. It is capable of containing 54 Beds, but the number of Patients, except on the occurrence of Epidemics, is limited to 44, as the Funds would not support more. It is the only Fever Hospital in the County of Sligo, and is a well conducted Institution, as the local Gentry and the Medical Officers devote very considerable attention to its management. The Funds for its support are altogether raised by County Presentment, which amounts to £500 annually. This, on some occasions, has been found insufficient to meet the expenditure; a Board of Health was then formed, when additional funds were obtained from the General Board of Health, which were finally paid by the County.

During each of the years 1839 and 1840, the admission averaged 687, of which 501 resided within five miles of Sligo, 127 between five and ten miles, and 59 beyond ten miles.

* The Dispensary House is in the Ballina Union, but a large portion of the District is in the Sligo Union.

On examining these distances on the County Map, and ascertaining the Parishes included in each, we find that the population contained within the first circle is about 46,500, and that within the second, about 50,000, leaving that of the entire County beyond ten miles from Sligo, about 75,400. These amounts may not be strictly accurate, but they are sufficiently so for the purpose for which they are intended.

It appears then, that a population within five miles of Sligo received Fever Hospital accommodation in the proportion of 1 to 67¾ of that population; that between five and ten miles, in a proportion of 1 to 400; and that outside ten miles, of 1 to 1,258.

These statistics show that, though the Funds are raised off the entire County, and though all who come from any part of it are freely admitted, relief is, in point of fact, chiefly obtained, and ever will be, generally obtained, by those who reside within such convenient distance of the Institution as to enable them to avail themselves of it. In further proof of this we may observe that at the remote Dispensaries, Tubercorry, Dromore, and Ballymote, the want of Fever Hospital Relief, and the difficulty of obtaining it at so remote a place as Sligo, was adverted to by the Subscribers and Physicians, who, however, spoke highly of the Institution. The Medical Report of the Hospital for the year 1839 states that Fever has been "more alarming in the Country Districts, particularly those of Riverstown and Ballymote, from which parts of the Country, entire families are often conveyed into Hospital in a most deplorable condition, in various stages of the Disease; in fact, in some instances Patients died whilst they lay thrown in a cart with three or four members of the family, seeking through the Town for tickets of admission, after a journey of twelve or fifteen miles, and in many instances death occurs a few hours after admission."

When Fever becomes so prevalent that the County Funds are inadequate to their support, no exertions have been made to obtain Subscriptions from the Gentry of the County, or from those of the more immediate District around Sligo, on which the benefits of the Hospital are chiefly conferred.

The Sligo Infirmary is a very efficient Institution, being one of the best of this class in the Kingdom. For this efficiency much of the credit is due to the fiscal authorities and Governors, but much also to the Surgeon, who, within seven years, has, by great exertions, been a chief means of increasing the number of beds from 26 to 50.

The Hospital is chiefly supported by County and Treasury Grants; the former in the year 1840, was £1000, beside £94 for the Surgeon. There was only one donation or subscription, which was for £10 10*s.* The expenditure amounted to £1,120 6*s.* 8*d.*

The character of this Hospital is now such, that Patients come considerable distances to it, to be operated on; 53 of the above 82 resided in the Counties of Fermanagh, Donegal, Mayo, Roscommon, Leitrim, and Tipperary.

During the year 1840, 451 intern Patients were admitted; of these 195 resided within five miles of Sligo, principally, it is stated, in the Town; 174 between five and ten miles, and 82 beyond ten miles. The contiguous population therefore obtained relief in the proportion of 1 to 240, that outside it 1 to 290, and that beyond ten miles of 1 to 920; but as 53 of the 82 were not residents of the County, the proportion in which admission was obtained by those residing in the County of Sligo, beyond ten miles from the Hospital, was as 1 to 2,600.

The Surgeon is of opinion that in large Counties the establishment of a few beds in connexion with Union or District Fever Hospitals, is a desirable measure, that were a few such at Ballina to supply the wants of the Western portion of the County of Sligo, and authority given to admit into this Institution fit objects from the contiguous part of the County Leitrim, making it useful to the population within reach of it, 50, or at most 60 beds would be sufficient, taking into consideration that the Workhouses will absorb the chronic cases, several of which have heretofore pressed on the Infirmary.

Light cases are rarely admitted into this Hospital: there were none such in it at the time of our inspection. Care is taken that such never exclude serious ones, as the Governors have very judiciously given the Surgeon authority to act on his own judgment in this respect.

The Governors allow the Surgeon £40 per year, as house rent, as he does not reside at the Infirmary, and the Medicines are dispensed by his apprentices on his responsibility. It may be questioned whether either is legal, and whether the latter arrangement is, on the whole, judicious; though in this case the duties are probably well performed.*

"Trusses," it is observed by the Surgeon, "are very expensive to the Institution, and in many instances, persons who could afford to buy such, are sent to the Infirmary to be gratuitously supplied." In reference to the practice of obtaining Medicines from different Institutions at the same time, he states—"we have known Patients obtaining Tickets to the three Institutions," (the two Sligo Dispensaries and the Infirmary) "and not only getting Medicines and advice from each, but even Trusses, two of which the individual has been known to sell on leaving Town."

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* The 54th Geo. III. ch. 62, clearly shows that the Legislature intended that a properly qualified Apothecary shall be appointed to each Infirmary. Providing for the establishment of a second Infirmary in a County, it is "lawful for such Governors to elect a Surgeon and Apothecary for the purpose of attending such additional Infirmary or Hospital;" and "it shall be lawful for the Surgeon and Apothecary of each of the said Infirmaries to receive respectively one-half of the emoluments provided for Surgeons or Apothecaries of Infirmaries by this Act," sect. 5; and "it shall be lawful for such Governors to appropriate and to pay to any Apothecary who shall have duly served an apprenticeship to the art and mystery of an Apothecary, a sum by the year not exceeding £30 sterling as a salary," sect. 6.

Baltinglass Union.

The *Baltinglass Union* contains four Dispensaries, which would be sufficient for a population of 39,646, were the Union fairly divided into so many Districts.

The existing Dispensaries are considered to be efficient, but parties have this year refused their usual subscriptions, on account of the forthcoming payment of Poor Rate; and intelligent and respectable persons at Dunlavin are of opinion that this feeling is likely to increase. Many who subscribed to the Rathvilly Dispensary last year, have informed the Medical Officer that they cannot do so again. The prevailing wish is that, failing a sufficiency of Subscriptions and County Grants, the necessary funds should be raised on the principle of the Poor Rate, in order, it is observed, to compel those to contribute who will not now do so. They advocate that the funds should be disbursed by a local Committee, in whom the election of Medical Officers should be vested.

There is one Fever Hospital in this Union, at Stratford-on-Slaney. It contains 20 Beds, but could accommodate 30 Patients. It is intended for Fever cases occurring in the County of Wicklow, but admits some from the neighbouring parts of the Counties of Carlow and Kildare. It is almost entirely supported by County Grants; only £12 8*s.* 4*d.* was subscribed in the year 1840.

The admissions in that year amounted to 198, only 19 of whom resided beyond five miles, and none beyond ten. This extent of relief however, could not have been afforded, were not the Governors enabled to avail themselves of a fund, of which £70 still remains untouched. £98 of the year's income was obtained from this fund.

Though this building is a tolerably good one, the roof and other parts are in a bad condition, and the beds and bedding are of an indifferent description, all for want of funds.

The Governors who attended express an expectation that "a strong appeal to the landed Proprietors would have the effect of obtaining subscriptions from them. But, should not this be the result, they think a compulsory rate would then be necessary, to be administered by a Local Board, under a proper superior supervision and authority."

The Baltinglass Infirmary is a branch of that at Wicklow. It contains twelve beds, and would admit of fifteen. It is chiefly supported by a County Grant of £276 18*s.* 6*d.* per year; the subscriptions amount to £44 2*s.*; and £26 13*s.* 10*d.* is obtained from interest on a surplus fund of £757, which has been gradually accumulated by the annual excess of income over expenditure since the year 1832.

This Infirmary is contiguous to the River Slaney, and sometimes the ground floor is flooded, rendering the house damp, and not very fit for such a purpose, for which it is in other respects not well suited. The beds, bedding, and other necessaries, are of an indifferent description. This appearance would induce a regret that a portion of the above-mentioned surplus fund is not applied for the purpose of procuring the necessary comforts for the Patients; but the Governors very laudably intend to make it available for the building of a better house, which intention has been deferred until it is seen what legislation may result from this Inquiry.

The Surgeon to this Infirmary is also the Medical Attendant of the Fever Hospital at Stratford-on-Slaney, at which place he resides. The distance from his residence to the Infirmary is about two miles, and consequently a violation of the letter of the 86th clause of the Grand Jury Act occurs, as the Surgeon's residence is directed to be within one mile of the Infirmary. But as his Assistant resides in Baltinglass, no injury arises from the circumstance.

We feel it necessary to observe that the arrangements respecting the supply of Medicines to this Institution are not satisfactory; and that the same remark applies to the purchase of provisions.

Naas Union

The *Naas Union* contains five Dispensaries, which are judiciously distributed, and which, under satisfactory arrangements, might be expected to afford the necessary relief in their respective Districts. Several circumstances, however, prevent that relief from being equal to the wants of the Sick.

By a rule of the Institution, domiciliary attendance at the Naas Dispensary is only expected to be given in the Town of Naas, and for one mile around it. These visits are made, in the first instance, by the Apothecary, who reports the more serious cases to the Physician. Occasional visits are paid at greater distances, but this rule is likely to prevent the parts of the District outside one mile from obtaining the necessary attendance.

We cannot avoid noticing the rent, £15 15*s.*, paid for the Dispensary shop, which is a room in the Apothecary's house, and which, at most, would not be worth more than half that sum.

The rent paid for the Naas Fever Hospital is £30 per year.

The Medical Officer of the Newbridge Dispensary resides at Naas, and though the duties are, we believe, diligently performed, as far as non-residence admits, such an arrangement must always operate injuriously.

Here also the rent of the Dispensary is high, namely, £15 per year.

The Surgeon to this Institution is unable to obtain a sufficiency of Medicines for the Sick, in consequence of the want of funds. Yet many of the Proprietors of the District do not subscribe, and some who did, the owners even of large properties, now refuse, alleging as a cause the payment of Poor Rate. The Charity cannot continue to be satisfactorily conducted under these circumstances.

The Surgeon to the Robertstown Dispensary resides at Rathangan, distant five or six Irish miles. Here, a debt having been allowed to accrue for Medicines, the Funds are

only able to pay the Superintendent £25 per year, which is so incommensurate with his labours that he is likely to resign.

Some Proprietors in this District, also, do not subscribe to the Dispensary.

Naas Union.

The rent paid for the Dispensary at Blessington is £15, a far larger sum than it appears to be worth. But the income of this Institution considerably exceeds the expenditure, and a balance of £170 is now available, with which it is intended to build a Dispensary House, to contain two wards for Intern Patients.

As domiciliary attendance is not expected of the Surgeon of the Kildare Infirmary, though he gives it in the Town, and as there is no Dispensary in a large District around, it is deprived of that necessary relief. Considering these, and other circumstances, we are of opinion that a large proportion of the Sick Poor of this Union are unable to obtain domiciliary attendance.

There are two Fever Hospitals in this Union, one at Naas, the other at Kilcullen. The former contains twenty beds, the latter twenty-three. Each could admit of an increase of eight more.

The Subscribers to the Naas Fever Hospital and Dispensary, who attended our Meeting, expressed an opinion that the Funds for the support of Medical Charities should be raised by a compulsory taxation.* About two-thirds of the Subscribers to both declared, when paying this year's subscription, that, owing to the payment of Poor Rate, they would discontinue them. But at Blessington, it was considered, that in the event of any such legislation, that District, and others in which the Funds are sufficient, should be exempted, until they become unable to support the Institution in the ordinary way.

The County of Kildare Infirmary has been lately enlarged, and now contains fifty beds. It is almost entirely supported by County Presentments and Treasury Grants; the amount of Funds from other sources being very small. It is a well managed Institution; the Governors and Medical Officer appear to be much interested in rendering it as efficient as possible.

It is stated that fit objects are frequently refused, for want of room, and that many of these go to the Dublin Hospitals. More room, however, could be given were that portion of the house, which is now occupied by the Surgeon and his family, and who is paid the usual double Salary, viz. £94 by the County, and £89 from the Treasury, converted into Wards. It would appear but reasonable, that under existing circumstances, the accommodation afforded by the Institution, should be used for the Sick in preference to any other party.

The Medicines are dispensed by the House Steward, who is not a qualified Apothecary, but is said to be useful in this and other respects.

Though this Hospital affords very efficient relief, as far as its room and Funds admit, our inquiries at Dispensaries in remote parts of the County supply evidence that it is not sufficiently available for such remote Districts.

As the Naas and Kilcullen Fever Hospitals are some miles distant, the Governors of this Infirmary express a wish to connect two Fever Wards with it, considering such relief to be required in that Town and District. The cost for meat, fuel, and bread was considered to be high, and it was suggested that steps should be taken to reduce them. The fuel alone, for one year, cost £94 15*s.* in which is included £16 18*s.* "allowance for Surgery and Surgeon." It is doubtful if it be legal to tax the public for fuel for the Surgeon.

Carlow Union.

There are eight Dispensaries in the *Carlow Union.* They are in charge of eight Medical Attendants, and may be considered fully sufficient to meet the wants of the Sick Poor requiring this species of relief.

The population of the Carlow Dispensary District is, however, too large for one individual to be enabled to give efficient domiciliary attendance on all its Sick Poor; but the duty appears to be faithfully performed, as far as circumstances admit.

The Medical Officer of the Tullow Dispensary is not expected to pay domiciliary visits outside that Town; he does much of that, however, as a matter of favor, which is not included in his public duties. There is no provision for attendance on difficult Midwifery cases; the Surgeon does attend some, but not all that require Medical Relief. The Subscribers consider that if the Doctor were better remunerated, domiciliary and Midwifery attendance would be better performed. His salary for attendance in the Dispensary and Fever Hospital is £105.

In the Newtown, Bagnalstown, Leighlinbridge, and Carlow Districts, several Proprietors and other wealthy persons do not subscribe to the local Dispensaries.

There are four Fever Hospitals in this Union, each almost entirely supported by County Funds, there being no Subscription for three of them. These Grants are made under the 83rd Sec. of the 6th and 7th William IV. chap. 116. The Presentments for the four, in a year amounted to £850. Some doubts exist as to the legality of these Presentments.

A new and commodious Fever Hospital is now nearly built at Carlow, which will contain 40 beds, and which, with the other three, will be quite sufficient for the wants of the Union.

The Borris Fever Hospital was built at the expense of the Proprietor of that Town. It is capable of accommodating 30 Patients, and is a well arranged Institution; at present it only contains 12 beds.

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* The following Resolution was agreed on—"It is our opinion (as Governors of the Naas Fever Hospital and Dispensary) that the existence and support of the Medical Charities of Ireland, should not be left dependent, as now, on local exertion, but that their support and local government should be placed on the same footing as the County Infirmaries."

A population of 15,174, situated in the Queen's County part of the Union is, however, excluded from all Fever Hospital relief. The Subscribers to the two Dispensaries in this part of the Union are anxious that they should be enabled to obtain the advantages of the Carlow Fever Hospital, contributing their proportion of the expenses. They also wish to be empowered to send Patients to the Carlow Infirmary on the same condition, as the remoteness of the Maryboro' Infirmary prevents serious cases from going there. *Carlow Union.*

The Bagnalstown and Tullow Fever Hospitals are also well managed Institutions.

The Carlow Infirmary is sufficient for the wants of the County. It has been recently built. It contains 35 beds, but could accommodate 45. It appears to be a well built Hospital, and to be well conducted by the Governors and Surgeon. The latter states that, from his experience, it would be a great convenience to those residing in the contiguous part of the Queen's County, if the Governors were authorized to admit Patients from it, by such an arrangement, of course, as would place a fair portion of the expense on such District.

The *Enniscorthy Union* contains five Dispensaries, which are in charge of six Medical Officers, one of whom is also Surgeon to a Dispensary in the New Ross Union. They are judiciously distributed, and are considered sufficient to give the necessary relief. *Enniscorthy Union.*

The subscriptions to the Enniscorthy Dispensary being found insufficient, a rule was passed which limited the number of recommending tickets to 36 for each Guinea subscribed. It is considered by some, who are highly favorable to the Institution, that under this arrangement, a sufficiency of relief is not obtained, and they are therefore very anxious to have the rule modified.

This Institution is attended by two Medical Officers, one of whom dispenses the Medicines, and also takes his share of the prescribing and visiting duty. Were the District divided between them, they could, we think, more conveniently attend a greater number, at the Patients' residences.

Many Landlords, and other wealthy parties connected with this District, are not Subscribers. The same is said to be the case in the Oulart District.

There are three Fever Hospitals in this Union, one at Enniscorthy, one at Newtownbarry, the third at Oulart. They are capable of containing between 70 and 80 beds, and if provided with Funds would be adequate to the relief of Fever cases occurring in the Union on ordinary occasions. At the two last mentioned, however, the Subscribers are not enabled to obtain a sufficiency of subscriptions to meet their local wants. At Enniscorthy such difficulty does not at present exist.

Some of those who require it obtain Infirmary relief at Wexford; but distance, the want of room in the Hospital, and the difficulty of procuring Governors' recommendations, prevent many from being able to avail themselves of its advantages. It is stated that no Governor of the Infirmary resides in the entire of the Enniscorthy Dispensary District.

There are four Dispensaries in the *Gorey Union*, which are fairly distributed. Three are held by resident Medical Officers; that at Coolgreny, by the Surgeon of the Arklow Fever Hospital and Dispensary. *Gorey Union.*

The duties are considered to be satisfactorily performed. This number may be deemed sufficient for a population of 36,083.

The Gorey Fever Hospital admits Patients from all parts of the Union, or of the County, as far as its Funds and room admit. But its extent of accommodation is not sufficient for the Union. The Killena Dispensary District is said to be unable to obtain much benefit from it.

The Hospital, though well to look at, was badly designed; appearance, rather than accommodation, being, it would seem, the object of the Architect or Builder.

This Institution receives no subscriptions, but is entirely supported by County Presentments.

There is no Infirmary in this Union, and that at Wexford is so remote that, comparatively with the number that stand in need of such relief, but few are enabled to go there. To meet this difficulty a few bad cases are occasionally admitted into the Gorey Fever Hospital, but the accommodation so afforded is not sufficient.

There are 11 Dispensaries in the *New Ross Union*, in charge of the same number of Medical Officers; these must be amply sufficient for a population of 67,944. *New Ross Union.*

The Subscriptions to the New Ross Dispensary are obtained by weekly collections amongst the inhabitants of that Town. In this manner, two pay 17*s.* 4*d.* each, per year; nine 13*s.* each; one 10*s.*; twenty-five 8*s.* 8*d.*, and one hundred and twenty-four 4*s.* 4*d.* each: besides, the workmen of four merchants contribute £9 1*s.* This mode of obtaining a fund for this charitable purpose has been many years in operation, and affords a proof that in similar communities, if equal exertions were used, the same beneficial results would follow. As the funds depend on these collections and on the County grant, there are no Guinea Subscribers to this Institution.

Connected with this Dispensary is a Fever Hospital and an Infirmary, capable of containing 72 beds.

These three Institutions are under the management of a Committee of twenty, who breakfast at the Hospital every Monday, at their own expense, and transact the necessary business. By this admirable arrangement which has been pursued for the last thirty years, a constant superintendence is ensured, without any expense to the Charities, and with

scarcely any loss of time to the Members of the Committee, as they breakfast at an early hour.

A Surgeon Apothecary who resides in the Hospital, superintends all its arrangements, prescribes for such Patients as are recommended to the Dispensary, and visits those who are unable to come there. The Dispensary visiting District, however, is limited to the parishes of St. Mary, and to the Ballyane estate.

The New Ross Fever Hospital is supported partly by a County grant, (which there has been a difficulty in obtaining on some occasions,) partly by subscriptions and donations, but chiefly by a legacy, which enables the managing Committee to render the Institution highly useful in affording relief to Surgical cases, as well as to Patients in Fever. This relief, however, they are obliged to limit in a great measure to the inhabitants of the before mentioned District, such being the conditions on which the legacy was given. The consequence is that a large and populous tract of country, within a few miles of New Ross, is excluded from the benefits of this excellent general Hospital and Dispensary, a circumstance which the authorities connected with it greatly lament. A wealthy and benevolent individual lately offered to subscribe to the Hospital, on the condition that his tenants should be admissible into it, but the Committee felt that they could not agree to his proposal, which they were obliged to refuse, though with much regret.

It would seem however that such legislation could be suggested, as would secure the benefits of the legacy to the District for which it was intended, whilst the Hospital could be made available for the other portions of the country around, by providing that such parts should contribute a fair proportion of the expense. The advantages of the Charity would be thus extended, and, as it would be conducted on a large scale, the legacy fund would actually be a means of affording more relief than it now does.

In consequence of this peculiarity in the conduct of this Institution, many of the neighbouring Proprietors are not Subscribers, and it is admitted by the managing Committee that the want of Fever Hospital and Infirmary relief in the District, the parishes of St. Mary and the Ballyane estate excepted, is productive of much injury, and requires to be provided for.

Five of the Medical practitioners residing in the Town attend the Hospital, each in his turn; they are paid no salaries. By this arrangement very efficient attendance on the sick is ensured, and the information obtained is made to react far more beneficially on the community than if it were in charge of only one individual.

At one of these Dispensaries a sum equivalent to the fines obtained from the Magistrates at Petty Sessions was claimed off the County, and was usually obtained, but this source has now ceased, and the funds are so far deficient.

But very few of the Proprietors in the Graigue Dispensary District subscribe. No Subscription is had from the owner of a large contiguous estate, the population of which is 6,844, amongst which, however, relief is freely given. But a branch of the Borris Dispensary is held in a part of this estate; it is eight miles from Borris, where the Surgeon resides. The occupiers in this Dispensary District are the principal Subscribers, and, as payers of the County Rate, are, of course, doubly taxed.

An abuse is stated to exist in the management of the Templudigan Dispensary, which requires to be noticed. There are in all only six Subscribers, two of whom are non-resident. These nominate parties to represent them, who are authorised to recommend Patients; and in the exercise of this authority, they compel the Dispensary Doctor to attend themselves and other persons in comfortable circumstances, and even obtain Medicines for their cattle.

The following is a rule of the Institution—"that in case a Subscriber shall call for the attendance of the Surgeon unnecessarily, or for a person who could afford to pay the usual fee to a Medical man, the Surgeon shall not refuse to go, but shall report the same to the Committee at its next meeting." As the parties to whom the Surgeon would have to report are those who give these recommendations, he might hesitate to look for redress. It would seem from this and other circumstances connected with these Institutions, that the bye-laws of the Subscribers should be submitted to some controlling authority, by which their reasonableness and legality would be ascertained and certified.

Unfit objects are recommended at some of the other Dispensaries.

In the Glanmore District very few Landlords—only seven—subscribe; one, who the first year gave 10*l.*, has now reduced his contribution to a guinea. 53 of the Subscribers are occupiers. Some of them obtain attendance and medicines, and are of a class fairly entitled to them. They in fact, very creditably subscribe small sums to have the benefit of such an Institution for the locality, and as the relief is very efficient, they are desirous it should be continued, but that the funds should be raised off the property of the District, as a portion of the Poor Rate.

There are two other Fever Hospitals in this Union, one at Rosbercon, on the County Kilkenny side of the river, called the Ida Fever Hospital; the second at Arthurstown.

The Ida Hospital is capable of containing from 20 to 24 beds, and was built by Subscriptions and County Grant. The necessity for it arose in consequence of Patients from the County Kilkenny being inadmissible into the New Ross Hospital. No Subscription nor County Grant has been obtained for it this year; only five Patients have been admitted, gratis; but about twenty were received who were supported by their friends, and who gladly availed themselves of the advantages the Hospital afforded.

A respectable Gentleman, residing at Rosbercon, who is Treasurer to the Hospital and Dispensary, states that he has never known any Fever Patient to be sent from this

District to the County Fever Hospital at Kilkenny, and that, if Subscriptions could be obtained, great advantage would be derived from the Institution; but Proprietors and other wealthy persons cannot, he states, be induced to subscribe.

Gratuitous attendance on this Hospital is given by the Dispensary Surgeon.

New Ross Union.

The Arthurstown Fever Hospital is a very efficient one. It contains 27 beds, and confers great benefits on the District. 203 Patients were received into it in the year 1840, all from within a distance of five miles. It is stated to have been a most valuable means of preventing the extension of Fever, and of preserving life.

With the exception of the Ross and Arthurstown Districts, no Fever Hospital relief is obtained in any other part of the Union, but the want of it is much felt in the others.

We are of opinion that an arrangement could be made by which the New Ross and Ida Hospitals could be made fully available for Fever and Infirmary cases for the entire Union, with the exception of the Southern portion of it, which could be provided for at Arthurstown.

As the Wexford Infirmary and the Kilkenny Infirmary are nearly twenty Irish miles distant from Ross, the relief afforded by them to the Sick Poor of this Union is very inconsiderable. The Treasurer of the Ida Dispensary stated, that during a thirty-years' residence, at Rosbercon, he only recollected that two Patients had been sent to Kilkenny. The want of such relief is expressed by parties connected with all the Dispensaries in the Union.

Rathdrum Union.

The *Rathdrum Union* contains six Dispensaries, three Fever Hospitals, and one Infirmary.

The Dispensaries are well distributed, and are considered to give the necessary relief in the respective Districts. But the Medical Officer of the Aughrim Dispensary resides four and a half Irish miles from the Institution, which must necessarily lessen the value of his services. Besides, there is no provision for domiciliary attendance on such as stand in need of it in the Town of Wicklow, and a District surrounding it, the population of which is 7,031. It is considered that this is an evil which requires to be remedied.

There are three Fever Hospitals in the Union, one at Newtown Mount-Kennedy, one at Wicklow, the other at Arklow. Each gives sufficient relief in the District around these Towns, and no fit case which offers is refused. But in consequence of the distance from portions of the Rathdrum and Aughrim Districts to each Hospital, those portions of the Union do not receive much advantage from these Charities, for which reason the Subscribers to the Rathdrum Dispensary, and the Medical Officers of that and of the Aughrim Dispensary are favourable to the establishment of a Fever Hospital at the centre of the Union.

Two of these Hospitals receive no Subscriptions, the County Grants for each being made under the 83rd section of the 6th and 7th Wm. IV. c. 116. If a Presentment for more than one County Fever Hospital be legal, this division of the maximum grant appears a very fair and judicious mode of distributing the public fund, as the relief thus afforded at different points of the County is far more beneficial than any that could be given at one such Institution, no matter how central it might be. And, in fact, so satisfied are the authorities connected with these Hospitals of the advantages derived from them, that they all express their intention to support them as County or District Institutions, rather than to have one general Fever Hospital for the entire Union. We should observe that they are well managed Institutions, the Governors and Medical Officers appearing to discharge their respective duties very faithfully.

Lately, the funds of the Arklow Fever Hospital have not been sufficient to meet the expense, but the Physician has very liberally advanced £140 rather than allow any to be in want of relief.

It is, however, a pretty general opinion, that when County funds are insufficient, the District proprietors and the wealthy resident gentry should be called on to subscribe to meet the necessary expense.

The Wicklow Infirmary is a very well managed Institution, and all who are connected with it appear anxious to render it as useful as possible. It is considered sufficient to meet the wants of the eastern portion of the County. Fit cases are sometimes refused for want of room, but they are put into lodgings in the Town, and attended until there are vacant beds.

Shillelagh Union.

The *Shillelagh Union* contains four Dispensaries, in charge of four Medical Officers, which may be considered to be amply sufficient for a population of 31,596, in an area of 58,577 acres.

Though two of the Medical Officers reside some distance from their respective Districts, the Sick Poor are considered to be fairly attended throughout the Union.

The Medical Officer of the Carnew Dispensary does not attend dangerous Midwifery cases, and another Gentleman is employed by the Subscribers for that purpose, to whom £28 14*s.* 2*d.* was paid for his attendance on such Patients in the year 1840.

The Medicines in this Institution are kept in a manner which cannot be approved of, and which must greatly increase the labours of the Medical Officer in dispensing them to the Sick.

At this Institution some relief is given to a few Fever cases in the Dispensary house.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union, and its remoteness from each of the County Wicklow Institutions of that class admits of no relief being obtained by the Sick of the Union at them. Those connected with each Dispensary state that a Union Fever Hospital

Shillelagh Union.

is very necessary. From the County Carlow part of the Union, Patients are received into the Tullow Fever Hospital. The general feeling is that for this and for Dispensary relief the funds should be raised in a compulsory manner, somewhat on the principle of the Poor Rate, as parties who have property in each District are not Subscribers, though their tenantry and domestics obtain relief.

Though there are two Infirmaries in this County, both are so remote from all parts of this Union, that but few of the more serious cases are sent to either—a fact which goes to show that these Institutions should not be for Counties, but for Districts.

Wexford Union.

The *Wexford Union* contains six Dispensaries, in charge of five Medical Officers. They are fairly distributed, and are considered to afford sufficient relief in the Districts for which they are respectively intended. But as the Town of Wexford, and a considerable portion of the Country around it, are not included in any Dispensary District, the want of such an Institution in this populous Town is stated to be an evil that requires to be remedied. It is much to be lamented that in many places where Infirmaries are established, no steps have yet been taken to provide that domiciliary attendance on the Sick Poor which is not afforded by the Infirmary authorities.

Portions of three of these Dispensary Districts are in the Ross and Enniscorthy Unions.

One Medical Officer attends the Conwal and Foulks Mills Dispensaries.

There is one Fever Hospital in the Union, at Wexford. It is a very superior Institution of the kind, capable of containing 64 beds, but, except during epidemics, the number generally kept for use is 40. It is attended by three Physicians. This Hospital receives the maximum County Grant, £500 per annum; Subscriptions to a considerable amount are also obtained for it. Both sources, however, have been sometimes insufficient to meet the expenditure; when a Board of Health was formed, and funds were advanced by Government, to be repaid by the County.

When we inspected the Hospital, its resources were quite exhausted; and we are informed that the benevolent Governors have been since compelled to close it, notwithstanding the efforts made by the Circular given below to prevent so distressing an occurrence.*

Patients are received from all parts of the County. In 1840, 708 were admitted, of whom 469 resided within five miles, 225 between five and ten miles, and 14 came a greater distance than ten miles.

This Hospital is sufficient to accommodate the Fever cases occurring in such parts of the Union as are within a moderate distance of Wexford. But experience has proved here, as in other places, that this species of relief cannot be conveniently afforded beyond six or eight miles.

The proportion of Fever cases sent from two Dispensary Districts in the Union goes far to corroborate this opinion. From the Broadway District, which is about seven or eight miles from Wexford, 37 were admitted in 1840, whilst from the Bannow District, which is still more remote, but in the same tract of country, and in which the poor are still more liable to Fever, scarcely any have been sent to Wexford. The very intelligent Superintendent of this Dispensary states that "from my own experience I can certify that the effects of the carriage thither" (to Wexford) "have frequently resulted in death," and "there is also a very strong prejudice amongst the lower orders against entering an

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Wexford, 13th August, 1841.

* Sir,—It again becomes my duty to address a Circular Letter to the Nobility and Gentry of the County Wexford in behalf of that truly useful Institution, the County Fever Hospital. In the discharge thereof I am requested to inform you, that at a General Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town and County, publicly convened by the Mayor of Wexford, and held in the Assembly Rooms, on Thursday, August the 12th,

The Rev. Dr. Murphy, (in the unavoidable absence of the Mayor,) in the Chair.

It was unanimously resolved—"That the £250 granted at the last Assizes being expended in debts already incurred, and the Institution owing at this moment Thirty Pounds to the Treasurer, and Fever still prevailing, the House must be closed, or a Board of Health unavoidably formed, if the Landed Proprietors *generally*, and others, do not come forward with Donations.

Resolved—"That Circulars be sent out with a view to solicit Subscriptions.

Resolved—"That this Meeting stand adjourned till Thursday the 26th instant, to receive the result of the above application.

"M. Murphy, Chairman.

"Joseph Keatinge, Secretary."

I would further beg to assure you, that the men to whom the management of this valuable Institution is committed, earnestly desire, and use all exertion to preserve it from the slightest abuse:—it is their peremptory direction that no Patient whatsoever shall be received into the Hospital who is not infected with Fever,—the utmost economy is observed, but still the Institution is in debt in consequence of the prevalence of low Typhus Fever for the last Six months or more.

It is therefore earnestly requested that all Subscribers who have not already paid their Subscriptions for the current year, will have the kindness to do so, and any Donations for the support of this best of Institutions will be very thankfully received and acknowledged by the Treasurer—Mr. Nathaniel Sparrow, or by your obedient servant,

Joseph Keatinge, Secretary.

In reply to our enquiry as to the success of this application, we received the following letter from the Secretary:—

Wexford, 8th October, 1841.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 5th inst., requesting to know the amount of Subscriptions and Donations received on account of the Circular which I addressed to the Nobility and Gentry of our County, in support of our Fever Hospital, I beg to say *nil!*—with the exception of £5 which I received from Sir Hugh Palliser, £1 1s. from the Rev. Mr. Wynne, Castlebridge, and £1 1s. from Mr. Thunder.

The consequence is we have been constrained to establish a Board of Health, which was not done without every exertion on our part being used to keep that best of Institutions open, before resorting to extraordinary means.

I am, dear Sir, your obedient humble servant,

Denis Phelan, Esq., Assistant Poor Law Commissioner. Joseph Keatinge, Secretary.

Hospital at so very great a distance from their homes; so much so, that it is with very great difficulty they can be prevailed on to go there."

Wexford Union.

The Wexford Infirmary contains 38 beds, and is capable of containing 50, but the number usually kept in use is 32. It is chiefly supported by public funds, the amount of subscriptions or donations being very small. It frequently happens that fit objects are refused admission for want of funds. . . . .

In the year 1840, 213 Patients were admitted into this Hospital, of whom 98 came from within a distance of five miles, 56 from between five and ten miles, and 59 came a still greater distance.

In reference to Fever and Surgical relief in Districts remote from the County Hospitals, the authority before quoted suggests—"the want of Hospital aid would be best supplied to each District by a Local Institution capable of affording relief to both fever and surgical cases, the number of beds to be in proportion to the extent and exigencies of the District. The sum of 2*s.* 6*d.* or 5*s.* received from such Patients as could afford it would materially assist the funds. I am also of opinion that if Fever Hospitals were supported by the Poor Rate as *addenda* to existing Dispensaries, they would be received as a *bonus* to the country at large."

Clogheen Union.

The *Clogheen Union* contains four Dispensaries, which are judiciously distributed, and are sufficient for a population of 40,935.

It is stated that many unfit objects obtain Dispensary attendance and Medicines in the Newcastle, Cahir, and Clogheen Districts. To prevent the continuance of this abuse, the Subscribers to the latter passed the following Resolution last June—"That the Doctor be requested to reject all applications for relief that are not really objects; also, all the servants of farmers who are able to contribute and do not." We doubt that the servants of farmers in comfortable circumstances ought to be deprived of relief on the grounds alluded to. The punishment in this case would be inflicted on the servant, not on the party able to contribute.

There are two Fever Hospitals in the Union. That at Clogheen contains 20 beds; the Cahir Hospital 28, but it is capable of accommodating 36. Both, under satisfactory arrangements, would seem to be sufficient to meet the wants of their respective Districts on ordinary occasions. Fever Patients are admitted from the Templetenny District into the Mitchelstown Hospital, and from the Newcastle District into the Clonmel and Clogheen Hospitals.

The Clogheen Fever Hospital, though an old building, and though the Wards are on the ground floor, is an admirably conducted Institution, equalling in cleanliness, and in affording real comforts to the Sick, any which we have seen. A larger is about to be built there shortly. The condition and working of the Cahir Fever Hospital and Dispensary will be understood from the following copy of the notes taken at a meeting of the Managing Committee and Medical Officer, at which we attended:

"The Cahir Fever Hospital and Dispensary are in the management of the same Committee and the same Medical Attendant.

"Income for the Year 1839–40.

	£	s.	d.
Balance on hands,	217	3	11
Subscriptions,	91	4	7
County Grant for Fever Hospital,	182	9	2
Subscriptions deducted from general list and charged in present as for Dispensary,	32	3	6
County Grant on same,	32	3	6
	£555	4	8

"Expenditure for same Year, 30th June, 1840.

	£	s.	d.
Amount paid Surgeon (who is allowed this sum for his own services, and to pay an Apothecary, and provide all Medicines for Fever Hospital and Dispensary, although there are separate items for each in the Treasurer's printed Account,)	215	0	0
Rent of Dispensary,	15	15	0
Subsistence of Patients in Hospital	94	18	1
One Nurse who has rations which are included in the foregoing charge for subsistence,	10	0	0
Fuel,	16	18	4
Soap and Candles,	4	17	5
Repairs,	5	8	5½
Blankets, &c.	11	7	9
Rent of Fever Hospital,	5	18	10
Incidentals,	13	11	6½
Total,	£393	14	11

Appendix (D.)

Reports of Assistant Commissioners.

Clogheen Union.

"Income for the Year ending 30th June, 1841.

	£	s.	d.
Balance on hands,	42	16	2
Subscriptions for Fever Hospital,	93	18	4
County Grant for ditto,	187	16	8
Subscriptions for Dispensary,	32	3	6
County Grant for ditto,	32	3	6
Total	£388	18	2

"For this year the items have not been all paid or settled by the Treasurer, who however has paid most of them, the Doctor's Salary included; and the sum so expended exceeds the Income by £9 6*s.* 5*d.* consequently from this, (September 7th, 1841) up to 30th June, 1842, there is no balance on hands, but a debt of £9 6*s.* 5*d.* is due to the Treasurer.

"All provisions are obtained on the requisition of the Doctor, who signs a pass-book daily, for such articles as are required.

"There is no contract for any article of provisions.

"The Apothecary is employed and paid by the Doctor, who also purchases the Medicines for both Institutions, and pays for them, out of the above sum of £215. When we visited, there was no Medicine at the Hospital, and the stock at the Dispensary was low, and none of the more expensive Medicines.

"In the printed Report of the Income and Expenditure for the year ended 30th June, 1840, which Report is understood to be a copy of that given by the Treasurer to the County Presenting Authorities; the items for Physician, Apothecary and Medicines are entered thus:—

To Amount paid to Surgeon and Apothecary.	£180	0	0
,, Medicines for Fever Hospital,	10	0	0
,, Ditto, for Dispensary,	25	0	0

"There is a Treasurer and Secretary, and a Committee of Twelve, but this Committee seldom meets except at the Annual Meeting of the Subscribers; on enquiring why, the answer was, because there was no business to be done.

"There are many deficiencies in the Hospital—no shifts, no second sets of sheets, or blankets, and not even one set if the 28 beds were all occupied; no scullery or washing apparatus; the rain comes through the roof; only three night chairs for all the Patients; no sewerage, no ventilators, no outhouses for straw, fuel, &c. no Dietary.

"Although the subscriptions for 1840–41, are about the same as for 1839–40, the Funds are insufficient to meet the necessary expense, and the Treasurer is in advance to the Institutions. It is intended to make an effort to have the subscriptions increased, but the result is doubted, as several Subscribers say they will cease to contribute, now that they will have to pay Poor Rate, and the Members present say the Hospital must be closed. The Doctor asked the Treasurer how he was to act as to the future admission of Patients, inasmuch as there are no Funds, and the persons supplying food, &c. are anxious to have a person who would be responsible to them. The Treasurer replied that he would not be responsible. Finally it was agreed to hold on, and try the chance of obtaining an increase of subscriptions.

"The registration of Patients, and the practice of Vaccination at this Dispensary are very satisfactory."

The obvious mode of improving these and other Institutions similarly managed, would be to remunerate the Medical Officers by fixed salaries, paid each by the Treasurer, and to provide the necessary Medicines out of the Dispensary funds, which should be paid for on invoices furnished by the Druggist.

Some relief is obtained by the Sick of this Union in the Cashel Infirmary, but not a sufficiency for their wants, as that Institution is frequently obliged to refuse fit cases.

Tipperary Union.

Until lately, the *Tipperary Union* contained three Dispensaries, one at Thomastown, one at Pallasgreen, the third at Tipperary. For want of funds the last had nearly ceased to give relief, when we inspected it; the Apothecary still gave advice and medicines to some, but the efficiency of the Institution was considered to be greatly diminished; and the Treasurer and some of the Subscribers stated that, under existing circumstances, sufficient Subscriptions for its support are not likely to be obtained. Latterly, several Proprietors, and other wealthy parties connected with the District, have not been Subscribers.

Medical attendance on this Institution has hitherto been afforded by four or five practitioners in the Town, and by the Apothecary; but, as the District is large and populous, and no subdivision of it has at any time been made, so as to throw the responsibility of attending the Sick of a particular District on each Medical Officer, it is probable that domiciliary visits beyond a small distance from the Town, have not been sufficient. This, perhaps, would account for the want of Subscriptions on the part of many who are able to give them.

The Medical Officer of the Thomastown Dispensary resides in the Town of Tipperary, but his attendance on the Sick in his District is very regular, and his duties are considered to be very faithfully performed. The same is stated to be the case in respect to the Pallasgreen Medical Officer.

Many Proprietors and other wealthy parties in the Thomastown District are not Subscribers, though their tenantry obtain relief. The Subscriptions have lately diminished, and it is believed they will still continue to do so; the payment of Poor Rate is assigned as the

chief cause. The Subscribers who attended a meeting convened by us express an apprehension that it will be difficult to obtain a sufficiency of Subscriptions, and are in favor of raising the necessary funds as a portion of the Poor Rate.

Tipperary Union.

As this Union contains a population of 70,853, six Dispensaries would perhaps be required to give efficient attendance on the Sick Poor. At present the majority of that class cannot obtain it.

There is one Fever Hospital in the Union, at Tipperary. It has been lately built, and is capable of containing 40 beds. It is a commodious house, and might be made available for the greater part of the Union, except perhaps the Pallasgreen District. But the funds are insufficient to provide many articles which are required in such an Institution. The Governors have been unable to erect any offices; there is no house for turf or straw, no wash-house, nor privy, or water-closet. No house dress has been yet provided for the Patients, who, on convalescence, and whilst in the Hospital, wear their own clothes. A sufficient supply of shirts or shifts has not been yet provided.

The Managing Committee regret the want of funds to provide all that the Institution requires. In their Report for the year ending March, 1840, they state:—"A new and excellent Hospital has this year been opened for the benefit of this very populous District, and as the former was totally inadequate to receive the numerous applicants, an additional expenditure has been hereby entailed on the Committee; they, therefore, feel themselves warranted to address without reserve the owners of the various properties around this Town in order to guarantee their support to so valuable an Institution, for, in the event of not being able to raise by private Subscriptions at least £200 annually, they will have to decide on the propriety of limiting the admissions to the residents upon the properties of Subscribers, and to some particular individual cases.

"The late Hospital averaged about 460 Patients annually, and, for want of accommodation, so many as three Patients have frequently had to occupy a single bed. The present Hospital is able to afford accommodation to twice that number."

Much of the Subscriptions for this Institution have been obtained through the influence and exertions of its respectable Treasurer, who states:—"I am decidedly of opinion, after seventeen years' experience as Treasurer, that no Institution of the kind can *now* be carried on by voluntary Subscriptions, and will be ready to give my testimony and reasons for that opinion whenever called upon to do so."

Several of the Subscribers agree with the Treasurer that the most likely mode of obtaining funds satisfactorily for Fever Hospital Relief, is on the principle of the Poor Rate.

Some obtain admission into the Cashel Infirmary from the County Tipperary portion of this Union, and others into the Limerick Infirmary, from the Limerick portion; but the relief so afforded is stated to be inadequate to the wants of that class of Patients, as the accommodation and funds of both these Institutions are insufficient for fit cases occurring in each County.

Clonmel Union.

The *Clonmel Union* contains three Dispensaries, which are pretty fairly distributed, and the duties of which appear to be well performed. But the population of one—22,288, that at Clonmel, is by far too large, as it is impossible that one Medical man could attend all the sick in it. Besides, the Medical Officer's visits are limited, except in extreme cases, to a circle of one mile around Clonmel. Under such circumstances, the appointment of one assistant appears necessary to ensure regular attendance on the sick. The large number of Patients attended in the year, 6,215, by one Medical man, who also has charge of the Fever Hospital, into which 1,259 cases were admitted, affords a pretty strong proof of the correctness of this opinion.

It is deserving of remark, that though, through the benevolence of the gentry of Clonmel and its vicinity, a large fund is annually raised and expended in affording necessaries and the attendance of a Midwife to poor lying-in women, and on dangerous occasions that of an Accoucheur, yet, as the latter attendance is gratuitous, and as no Medical man is made responsible for its performance, it is admitted that even in such a community, where the funds for any necessary charity are most liberally granted, females in these circumstances have died for want of any Medical attendance.

Some years ago, a small Surgical Hospital, capable of containing 15 beds, was erected in Clonmel, half by a donation from the Savings' Bank Committee, and half by County Presentment. It admitted 15 cases of severe accidents during the year 1840, at a cost of £58. The funds expended on their support are private contributions. In connexion with the Fever Hospital of the Town, this Institution is capable of affording much relief to the class of Patients admitted into it; but with more steady funds its benefits could be much extended.

The Clonmel Fever Hospital is more than sufficient for the wants of the Union, and is a very superior well-managed Institution.

The Subscribers to this Dispensary and Fever Hospital state that some landlords and others of wealth in this District do not subscribe towards either, and the Treasurer has been informed by some who do subscribe, that they will cease to do so on the payment of Poor Rate. Subscribers observe that such an occurrence is very probable.

Thurles Union.

There are five Dispensaries in the *Thurles Union*, in charge of five Medical Officers. Under the most satisfactory arrangements, this number would perhaps be rather few for a population of 64,237.

Thurles Union.

As there is no Dispensary at Cashel, by which domiciliary attendance would be afforded midway between that place and Thurles, the Dispensary of the latter is obliged to be extended so much in that direction as to make the District inconveniently large. The Medical attendants of the Littleton and Templetoohy Dispensaries, though non-resident, are yet within a moderate distance of their respective Districts.

Throughout, it is stated that the duties are faithfully performed.

Notwithstanding the great labours of the Surgeon to the Thurles Dispensary, many unfit objects are recommended, and obtain assistance there, and at their own residences in the country. Some of these unfit objects get recommendations from Subscribers in the Town, after having been refused by their landlords, whilst the latter recommend farmers having 50, 60, or 70 acres of land, with every appearance of being in comfortable circumstances. Other parties who are not ill, but merely wish to obtain some particular Medicines, are recommended and known to sell them. By these practices a considerable loss is occasioned to the Institution, and the time of the Medical Officers is unfairly and unnecessarily occupied.

There is a Fever Hospital in Thurles, and another at Templemore; the former contains 52 beds, but could accommodate from 70 to 80 Patients; the latter contains 14 beds, and would admit of 20.

Both are quite sufficient to accommodate the Fever cases of the Union, under satisfactory arrangements, and with sufficient funds.

The Thurles Fever Hospital is attended by four Physicians, who are paid £17 10*s.* each per annum. They are elected, or re-appointed, annually—an arrangement which causes much expense to them, or to their respective friends, as the latter subscribe in order to secure the appointment to the former. A vacancy having lately occurred in consequence of the resignation of the senior Physician, a contest of this nature took place, when a considerable sum was subscribed in this manner.

In four out of the five Dispensary Districts, it is stated that several landlords are not Subscribers to these Charities. The statement made at the Thurles meetings was, that "a vast number of landed proprietors do not subscribe, though numerous applications have been made to them." Here, all the Subscribers and the Medical Officers wished it to be recorded, that they apprehend the Fever Hospital and Dispensary cannot be supported under the present mode of raising funds, and that it should, in future, be provided for by a compulsory assessment, placing the expense on all property in an equable manner. They are also favourable to a general controlling and regulating authority, and to a local managing one, distinct from the Board of Guardians.

At Templemore, it was stated that many Subscribers say they will withdraw their subscriptions when called on to pay Poor Rate. The proprietor of the Town, and of a large estate around it, authorized the Surgeon to say, that he would cordially concur in a change in the laws by which Medical Charities are now supported, and it was observed by the Rector that in his opinion "the support of all Medical Charities should be compulsory, as being most equitable." He is also in favour of some better system of Medical Police for enforcing cleansing, &c.

The Surgeon to the Templemore Fever Hospital very liberally subscribes £5 per annum to it, and a member of his family £3.

Relief is given in it to Patients who pay 10*s.* or £1, to compensate for their expenses—the sum so obtained is included in the subscriptions, on which the County grant is claimed.

Ennistymon Union.

There are five Dispensaries in the *Ennistymon Union*, which are in charge of six Medical Officers. These Institutions are judiciously distributed, and with sufficient Funds, would, probably, be adequate to the wants of the Sick Poor. But, as many Owners and other parties, who possess interests in the Union, do not subscribe to the Dispensaries of their respective Districts, a sufficiency of relief is far from being afforded.

In the Ballyvaughan and New Quay District the Subscribers state that several of the chief Proprietors, who are mostly non-residents, contribute nothing to the Dispensary, and in proof of this statement eighteen such individuals were mentioned, whose joint annual rental is £12,000 a year. As the District is poor, those whose subscriptions support the Charity consider it a hardship that, as Occupiers, they should be doubly taxed, whilst so many Owners neither contribute by subscriptions nor by assessment. The Medical Officer resides at Kinvara; his duties appear to be very diligently performed.

The late Treasurer of the Ennistymon Dispensary was a defaulter in the sum of £190, on which account several of the Subscribers have discontinued their support, and for the last eighteen months, the Funds have been so low that no Salary has been paid to the Medical Attendants. The Clergymen and others there say that as these Gentlemen receive no remuneration, they are, at times, indisposed to request their attendance on parties who stand much in need of it.

In the Miltown Malbay District, it is stated that many Owners and other wealthy persons connected with it are not Subscribers to the Dispensary—that some freely promise, but are very slow in paying, a practice which causes much annoyance and inconvenience to the Treasurer. Yet many unfit objects are recommended and obtain Dispensary Relief. The Treasurer observes that though the Doctor knows those parties to be in comfortable circumstances, he is afraid to refuse his attendance, lest the recommending Subscribers should be offended. He instanced the case of a Gentleman who subscribed £3, and on some of his wealthy tenantry being refused relief, complained of its being withheld; when the Treasurer informed him that the Charity was not intended for such a class, the Gentleman observed

that he subscribed on the understanding that all his tenants of every class should be attended and get Medicines from the Institution.

Ennistymon Union.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union. Some are sent from it to the County Fever Hospital at Ennis, but the distance from some parts of the Union to that Town, and the difficulty of conveyance, render it of less value to the District than could be wished. Some most melancholy instances were given of great loss of life, the spread of contagious disease, and the consequent occurrence of pauperism, from the want of a Fever Hospital, to which the first who take Fever in poor families could be sent.

The general feeling through the Union is, that however useful the Ennis Fever Hospital may be, it does not and cannot afford sufficient relief to distant parts of the County, and that it is a hardship on the Landholders to be taxed for such an Institution, but that any tax raised for such a purpose, should be applied in affording relief in one or more local Hospitals in the Union.

It is also considered by several that the Funds for Fever Hospital and Dispensary Relief should be raised on the principle of the Poor Rate, and that in no other way can a sufficiency be equitably obtained, or the abuses and defects of the present system of gratuitous Medical Relief be remedied.

Several from the Union obtain admission into the County Infirmary; its remoteness, however, and the difficulty of transmitting Patients from the distant Districts, render it of little value to the Sick Poor in them.

Kilmallock Union.

There are eight Dispensaries in the *Kilmallock Union.* This number, if fairly distributed and under judicious arrangements, would secure sufficient Medical Relief for the Sick Poor of a population of 74,776.

The duties at these Institutions are considered to be faithfully discharged. The Medical Officer of each is expected to pay domiciliary visits, and to attend bad Midwifery cases.

The Bruff and Knockaney Dispensaries are under the care of the same Medical Officer, who resides in Bruff, which is central for the one, but not for the other District.

The Dispensaries at Galbally and Ballylander are in charge of one Medical Officer, who resides at the latter place; there is, consequently, in that portion of the Union included between Bruff and Ballylander, a large tract without any resident Medical Officer.

A branch of the Kilfinnan Dispensary is held at Kilmallock, though the Medical Officer of a similar Institution at the latter place is said to discharge his duties efficiently, and the Kilfinnan District is more than large enough for one person to attend. If it could be avoided, such a duplicate machinery in one place is not desirable, for many reasons.

At all these Dispensaries it is stated that unfit cases obtain advice and medicines. At Kilmallock some Subscribers have withdrawn their support, because Dispensary relief was refused to their families, and their rich tenants; and one influential Subscriber, although remonstrated with for recommending a farmer who had fourteen cows, persevered in the practice, and in addition, has this year exceeded the number of recommendations to which he was entitled, by no less than 70, amongst which number there were many persons able to pay for Medical Relief. A case was given,—one whose annual Rental was £5000, after having refused to subscribe, obtained a recommendation from a Subscriber for one of his own tenants.

In the Bruff District the want of Fever Hospital Relief is much felt, being rather distant from either of the Hospitals in the Union. But some are sent from hence to Limerick, which is also too remote.

The Charleville Fever Hospital and Dispensary are under the care of two Physicians. It is a well managed Institution, and though in the County of Cork admits Patients from that portion of the Union which is in the County Limerick. It is capable of containing 50 beds, and is provided with 40. It admitted 550 Patients in 1840, of whom 78 resided in the County Limerick, a fact which shows the value of making such Institutions available for the surrounding population, without respect to County boundaries.

No fit case has been refused admission into this Hospital; even a recommendation is not necessary.

The Physicians to this Hospital are elected annually, an arrangement which, whilst it brings immediate Funds, is productive of many bad consequences. It is, moreover, very injurious to the Members of the Medical Profession, as it taxes them and their friends, beyond the proportion which, as members of Society, they ought to be called on to contribute. Its operation, in this particular, as in others has been most unjust, for a Physician of this Institution was displaced, and another elected in his room only a few minutes after a vote of thanks to him had been unanimously passed by the very Subscribers who displaced him. Besides it is a most unsound principle to render a Professional Man liable to an annual change; for, having been once elected it may be supposed, on his merits, he should be safe in the situation whilst he continues to discharge his duties faithfully.

Most of the Owners subscribe, but many of them in sums disproportionate to their properties, whilst but very few of the many Occupiers who are in circumstances to contribute, give any Subscription, probably because they are assessed for the Charity.

Some Subscribers have withdrawn their support; one, lately, because relief was refused to a person who has a farm of 40 acres of good land. Several similar cases were mentioned.

The want of Infirmary relief being much felt, the managing Committee of the Charleville Fever Hospital and Dispensary subscribed Three Guineas to the Mallow Infirmary, to entitle them to recommend Patients to it, but as some cases that had been recommended, one

Kilmallock Union.

particularly who died in returning from Mallow, were refused admission, this subscription has been withdrawn. It is stated that neither the Cork nor the Limerick portions of the Union are enabled to obtain any adequate Infirmary Relief. To remedy this the Charleville Gentry have it in contemplation to add a couple of Infirmary wards to their Fever Hospital.

We learn that since the Union Workhouse has been opened, several Surgical cases have been admitted into it. Before 200 Paupers were admitted, the Infirmary Wards were filled with such cases. This fact proves the want of Infirmary relief in the District.

The Kilfinnan Fever Hospital contains 24 beds. It admitted 224 Patients in 1840; all except 11 residing within five miles of that place.

Both these Hospitals might, under satisfactory arrangements, be made sufficiently available for the wants of the Union, but at present they are not so.

Several of the Subscribers in this Union are anxious that the Funds for Medical Relief should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate.

Kilrush Union.

There are six Dispensaries in the *Kilrush Union*, in charge of six Medical Officers. Under satisfactory arrangements that number might be sufficient for a population of 70,676. But two of the Superintendents are non-resident, and domiciliary attendance is afforded in their Districts only to a limited extent. One of these Gentlemen resides eight Irish miles from the Dispensary; of course, he cannot perform his duties as efficiently as could be wished. Though the Grand Jury have granted a Presentment for this Dispensary, the grant is illegal, as the Medical Officer was appointed in 1839, and is contrary to the letter and spirit of a provision in the 81st section of the 6th and 7th Wm. IV., c. 116, which makes it imperative on all Dispensary attendants subsequently appointed, to reside within five statute miles of the Dispensary.

The Kilrush Dispensary is well managed, but its funds are not sufficient to allow adequate remuneration to the Surgeon, who performs his duties most diligently.

The Districts of the Kildysart and Knock Dispensaries are not well arranged. A branch of the former at Labesheda would be an improvement.

Hitherto there has been no Fever Hospital in this Union, and its distance from Ennis has not enabled any considerable number of Fever Patients to be removed to the County Hospital there. This want is now about to be supplied, as an Institution capable of containing 50 beds, is being built at Kilrush. To establish this, Mr. Vandeleur and other proprietors, clergymen, and the gentry of the district, have made considerable exertions. Two of the wards are intended for serious Surgical cases, as the County Infirmary at Ennis is too remote to be sufficiently available for such Patients.

But though this Hospital has been so creditably established, it is the opinion of the parties connected with it, that, as many proprietors and other wealthy persons, have not aided in doing so, it is not likely that funds for its annual support can be obtained under the system of subscriptions and County grants; they, therefore, requested that we should record it to be their opinion, that, in future, the necessary funds should be raised off the property of the Union, as a portion of the Poor Rate, in the following manner:—Each Union to be empowered to tax itself for a Fever Hospital, and for a certain number of Dispensaries—that there should be Surgical wards in the Fever Hospital, and that the Dispensary of the District in which the Hospital is situated should be connected with such Hospital, that the funds should be controlled by the Poor Law Commissioners, and that the presenting powers of Special Sessions and Grand Jury should, in this respect, cease; the local administration to be vested in Local Boards, composed of the ex-officio Guardians, highest Rate-payers, and clergymen; each Dispensary District to pay its own expenses, and the entire Union to be taxed for the Hospital.

Listowel Union.

The *Listowel Union* contains nine Dispensaries, which are in charge of the same number of Medical Officers. These, for a population of 65,198, would be fully sufficient, were the arrangements satisfactory. Such, however, does not appear to be the case.

The Medical Officers of the Newtownsands, Doagh, and Gunsboro' Dispensaries, are non-resident, some at a distance of four miles (Irish), others three miles, from the centre of their respective districts. Under such an arrangement, it is not likely that the duties of large Districts can be performed; and as long as it is allowed to exist, efficient Dispensary relief, in many such, is not to be expected.

Attendance at the Doagh Dispensary is given but once a week, and "Patients are visited at their residences only when it is actually ascertained, that the cases require it;" but, "if the subscriptions were increased, the Doctor could afford to give more of his time to this class of patients;"—an admission which proves that the attendance now given is defective.

At the Clanmorris Dispensary, the funds are insufficient to purchase the necessary medicines, and the stock which we saw was, therefore, very scanty. This state of things, it is said, is likely to increase, as Subscribers are withdrawing, parties alleging as a cause the forthcoming payment of Poor Rate.

No domiciliary visits, except to a small extent, are paid by the Surgeon of the Ardfert Dispensary; the excepted portion is in the locality of Causeway, in which there is another Dispensary, and where therefore such visits are least wanted. In serious, acute cases, Fever, for instance, this Gentleman's habit is, to prescribe on the representation given by the Patients' messenger. This practice must necessarily be adopted in some instances, but should, of course, be confined to light cases. Difficult (pauper) Labour cases are not attended as Dispensary duty.

Listowel Union.

The medicines of this Institution are kept in the Surgeon's private shop; on examination, no separation appeared to exist between them and his own; the same bottles, drawers, &c., being used for each. The cost of medicines appears to be very great; and this, coupled with the fact of their being mixed up with those of the Medical Officer, may lead to injurious suspicions respecting the management and economy of that department, however unfounded such suspicions may be.

In justice to the Subscribers it should be observed, that this circumstance has been noticed by them, and that, at a meeting held in November last, they desired that a separation of the medicines should take place. This suggestion has not been adopted, up to this period, August 18, 1841.

There is no registry of Patients kept at this Institution. The Surgeon is a subscriber, and recommends Patients himself.

The Tarbert Dispensary attendance is considered to be very satisfactory, as the Physician is extremely zealous in the discharge of his duties. It is stated that, though very few of the more comfortable farmers obtain relief, the families of wealthy Subscribers are attended *gratis*, and obtain the Dispensary medicines. In one instance, this abuse was carried so far that the Doctor refused to give the Medicines demanded, when the party ceased to subscribe. This practice is carried to a great extent, parties sending to the Dispensary for bottles of castor oil, and quantities of other simple medicines for domestic use.

No payment is made by the family in question, nor by any who carry on this practice, to the Institution, for the Medicines obtained by them.

Numerous unfit objects are recommended to the Listowel Dispensary; one influential Subscriber rarely refuses any applicant. It is a well conducted Institution.

In the Listowel, Ballylongford, and Doagh Districts, several proprietors and other wealthy parties are not subscribers, but their tenantry and labourers get the usual Dispensary relief.

There was no Fever Hospital in this Union formerly, but one has been built at Listowel lately, which cost £1,200; £400 of which was raised by donations, and £800 by County grant. It is capable of containing 40 beds. £415 13*s.* are, at present, available for the support of Patients in it, but it is not likely that any will be admitted until next March.

Although this Hospital has been thus built, it is the opinion of the Subscribers, of one especially, who has been chiefly instrumental in establishing it, that a sufficiency of subscriptions, along with any County grants which are likely to be raised, cannot be obtained for the continuous support of the Institution. The subscriptions for this year were chiefly paid by the friends of two Physicians who were candidates for the Medical attendance, both of whom the Governors very judiciously appointed. The Gentleman just alluded to states that the subscriptions of these parties will fall off, and that several are not to be reckoned on. His opinion is, that the County should be divided into Fever Hospital Districts, to be supported by a tax raised off the property of such Districts respectively, each being relieved from taxation for the Hospital of any other.

From those parts of the Union next to Tralee, several obtain admission into the County Infirmary; but from the more remote side of it, few are enabled to go to Tralee, the distance being too great.

Tralee Union.

The *Tralee Union* contains four Dispensaries, which are in charge of five Medical Officers, a number that, under the most satisfactory arrangements, could not afford the necessary relief to the Sick Poor of a population of 84,374.

At the Annascal Dispensary it was stated that no recommendation to the Medical Officer is required; that he is at liberty to give advice and Medicines to all that apply, but is expected to attend at the houses of the Sick in urgent cases only; and this portion of the duty appears to be much restricted; that the Subscribers contribute on the understanding that all tenants, comfortable as well as poor, shall be attended. A Clergyman observes that the refusal of the Medical Officer, even in a case where the party was in comfortable circumstances, would be followed by the withdrawal of the subscription on the next occasion; and the Superintendent gives an instance of such a circumstance in the case of a farmer's wife, who reported that he refused to attend her, the farmer being considered worth at least £200.

The Medicine account at this Institution for a year only amounted to £9 5*s.*; and though a salary of £63 was promised the Medical attendant, there are not funds to pay him even £50. The same Clergyman states that the subscriptions are gradually declining, that this year they will not amount to £25, and that were it not for private regard for the Medical Officer, several would cease to contribute altogether.

Yet there are parties connected with the District in circumstances to enable them to contribute, but who are not Subscribers.

The Castlegregory Dispensary was established in February, 1840, by the friends of two Medical men. One party subscribed £89, the other £88. The present Superintendent was elected by a majority of one vote; the defeated party opposed the Presentment at the ensuing Assizes, when it was refused by the fiscal authorities; it was passed on the next occasion, and £150 granted, on condition that no Presentment should be sought for during the three ensuing years. No subscriptions have been raised this year, except a few small ones from the farmers.

Domiciliary visiting here is only expected within one mile of the Dispensary.

Many unfit cases are attended, some in compliment to the parties that supported the Doctor when he was elected.

Thirty individuals now subscribe, some from 10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*, on the understanding that themselves and their families shall be attended, and be supplied with Medicines from the Dispensary.

A Salary of £10 per annum is paid out of the Dispensary Funds to a person who dispenses the Medicines occasionally; this person is the Petty Sessions Clerk, and is not qualified for the performance of so serious a duty.

An Institution so circumstanced, is not likely to prove of any great service to the Sick Poor of a District whose population is 9,238. In fact, a Dispensary thus got up, and thus managed is, on the whole, more likely to be injurious than beneficial to the District, being a means of creating bad feelings between many of its inhabitants, without fulfilling the intentions for which such Charities are established.

A population of 4,200 in this Barony is not included in any of the three Dispensary Districts which exist in it.

The Castleisland Dispensary is intended for a population of 22,493, the Sick Poor of which would require two Medical Officers to give tolerably efficient attendance. Domiciliary visits are made only within three miles of Castleisland; the remainder of the District is, therefore, deprived of such relief. But parties in comfortable circumstances have been recommended, and the Doctor is compelled to attend them. A Landlord ceased to subscribe last year because the Medical Officer refused to attend a tenant whose annual rent is £120.

The Dingle Dispensary is in charge of two Medical Officers; they are not required to pay domiciliary visits. On their appointment their respective friends became Subscribers; these subscriptions have decreased, and on a late occasion the Treasurer refused to apply to the Presentment Sessions for the sums promised to be paid by several, until he obtained sufficient security that such subscriptions would be forthcoming.

Many Proprietors and others who are able to contribute, are not Subscribers. There are only two in one District, though more attendance is required in it than in any other; several Owners there do not contribute.

Many of the present Subscribers feel that their contributions are out of proportion to their means; but through respect for the Medical Officer, and to support a useful Charity, they continue them. They strongly advocate that the funds for Medical relief should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rates.

The Tralee Fever Hospital is a County Institution, entirely supported by County Presentments, under the 83rd section of the 6th and 7th William IV. chap. 116. No subscriptions are obtained or sought for. It contains 61 beds, but the number usually occupied varies from 16 to 40. It is now capable of accommodating 66 Patients, but, with some apparently inexpensive alterations, could be considerably enlarged. Fever Patients are admitted on presenting themselves without any recommendation.

The average annual admission into this Hospital, in the years 1831 and 1840, (of which we have accurate statistics,) was 527; of these 281 were admitted from within five miles, 196 from between five and ten miles, and 50 from the entire County beyond ten miles. Assuming the population of the first District to be 30,000, and that of the second to be 60,000, the remaining population of the County would be about 173,000. The Hospitals then, admitted Patients from the first, in the proportion of 1 to 107 of its population; from the second, 1 to 306; and from the third, 1 to 3,460. This very great disproportion may be readily understood from the situation of Tralee, which is so remote from the chief Towns in the County, and from its most populous districts, that Patients in Fever can rarely be sent from thence to the Hospital, with safety or convenience. Considering these circumstances, it appears but natural that complaints should be made by those who reside in Listowel, Killarney, Dingle, &c. for their being taxed to support an Institution that can scarcely afford their portions of the County any relief.

The want of Fever Hospital relief has been much felt at Dingle; the Grand Jury has granted £500, and Lords Cork and Ventry £100 each, to erect an Hospital there. But pending this Inquiry, the parties with whom the establishment of the Institution originated are unwilling to commence the building.

As no subscriptions are obtained for this Hospital, its legal government and management becomes vested in the Corporation, defined in the 1st sec. of the 58th George III, chap. 47, which Corporation is composed of the Archbishop or Bishop of the Diocese, the Representatives of the County in Parliament, and the County Magistrates, who are expected to meet from time to time, and of whom a quorum of Five is necessary for the transaction of any business. We are informed that for many years no meeting of this Corporation has taken place; not even a half-yearly one to examine the Treasurer's accounts, and to decide on the sum necessary to be sought for at each Assizes. It might be necessary to occasionally modify the existing bye-laws, or to make new ones, to meet particular circumstances, or the state of the Hospital, in respect to furniture, repairs, or the like, would be expected to require consideration, at least once in six or twelve months. In the absence of any such meeting the entire management of the Funds is left to the Treasurer. Whether it is legal to grant County Funds from year to year, and to leave these to be disbursed without the examination of the regular authority appointed for that purpose by the Legislature, we pretend not to determine, but it is not likely that Parliament contemplated that these Funds should be so managed, but on the contrary, expected that the whole business of the Institution should be subjected to the scrutinizing eye of these high and influential functionaries.

Were this done at Tralee, there can be very little doubt that beneficial results would follow, and that the Hospital would be kept in a condition very different from that in which we found it, and in which it appears to have been when inspected on a former occasion.

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An examination of the Treasurer's accounts would seem to confirm this view of the case. It appears that the nurse is the party by whom turf, straw, &c. are purchased, milk being the only article for which a Contract is made. In the accounts for 1840, we find that turf has been charged 2*s.* 6*d.* per kreil in each month during the year. As the article was purchased in the market, it might be expected to vary in price according to the season. Turf in this year cost £41 11*s.* 11*d.* A barber is allowed 1*s.* 3*d.* for shaving each head; the charge in this item is no less than £22 5*s.* for shaving 356 heads, which appears far more than is necessary, as a house Porter would gladly undertake this office for a much less remuneration.

The articles of Skins on which blisters are spread, cost no less than £6 in the year. A few shillings' worth of linen or calico would answer the purpose equally well.

The condition of this Institution may be judged of, when it is stated that there is scarcely any kitchen furniture: there is no laundry: the washing of the Patients' clothes, and of the bed clothes is done in the kitchen; there is neither bath nor water-closet, nor even a commode in the house. The bed clothes are laid on straw, there being no bed ticks to put the straw in.

The wards wanted tables, chairs, and most articles which are almost universally to be found in other Hospitals.

The Medical Officer, however, discharges his duties most faithfully.

The Tralee or County of Kerry Infirmary contains 36 beds, but it would admit of 40. It is a very well managed Institution, as the medical and fiscal duties are performed with the greatest attention and economy. Very few, if any, light cases are admitted; the most serious being sufficiently numerous to keep the beds filled; these are always received.

But efficient as this Institution is, the benefits it confers are confined to a limited portion of the County. In the years 1831 and 1840, (for which we possess an accurate return) the average number of intern Patients annually admitted amounted to 297. Of these 224 came from within five miles, 26 from between five and ten miles, and 47 from beyond the latter distance. The admissions from the contiguous population, then, was in the proportion of 1 to 134; from the second District, as 1 to 2,222, and from the entire County ten miles beyond Tralee, in the proportion of 1 to 3,680.

Thus it is evident that this Infirmary Relief is confined to a District, and is not much extended to the County.

The Tralee Union, however, obtains sufficient Infirmary Relief.

Bandon Union.

There are four Dispensaries in the *Bandon Union*, in charge of five Medical Officers, in which is also included a portion of the Ballineen Dispensary District. These are insufficient for a population of 81,533.

There is one Fever Hospital in the Union, at Bandon. It is a commodious, well managed Institution, containing 30 beds, which could be encreased to 36. It is intended for the Parishes of Kilbrogan and Ballymoden, whose population is 15,683. The remainder of the Union derives but little direct benefit from it. This may be seen from the fact, that in 1840 of 267 Patients admitted, 261 resided within five miles of Bandon. On the day of our inspection it contained 12 Patients, 11 of whom resided in that Town, one three miles from it.

It was stated at Innishannon, which is only four miles from Bandon, that few from that District obtain admission into this Hospital, and that the want of Fever Hospital Relief is much felt.

No Fever Hospital Relief is obtained in the Clonakilty or Timoleague Districts.

The Funds of this Hospital, though very well managed, are insufficient to meet the support of Patients from even this limited District. It is now in debt, but many Proprietors and other wealthy persons do not subscribe to it, or to the Dispensary. The same is stated to be the case in respect to the Clonakilty, Innishannon, and Timoleague Dispensaries.

There are 58 Subscribers to the Timoleague Dispensary, 32 of whom give less than a Guinea; some of these obtain Dispensary Attendance and Medicines *gratis*. Other unfit objects also obtain it; but unless this practice were allowed, it is said that the Dispensary could not be supported.

The County Infirmary is said to be of no use whatever to the Sick Poor of this Union; but the Bandon Hospital gives relief to serious accidents; this relief is, however, far from being equal to the wants of such as really require it.

The general feeling is, that Fever Hospital and Infirmary relief should be afforded by local Institutions; one at Bandon, the other at Clonakilty.

Bantry Union.

The *Bantry Union* contains only three Dispensaries, in charge of two Medical Officers, which are not more than half sufficient for a population of 46,668, spread over an area of 137,000 acres. It may therefore be reasonably presumed that Dispensary relief is not afforded to a very large proportion of the Sick Poor in this Union. It is stated that the Physician to the Castletown and Beerhaven Dispensary has been absent without leave from his District for six months lately, and that there was no Deputy to attend the Sick.

There is neither Fever Hospital nor Infirmary Relief in the Union, nor any Institution

Bantry Union.

within reach of it, where either can be obtained. A Fund of £130 being available for the establishment of a Fever Hospital at Bantry lately, application was made for a corresponding Grant, which was refused by the Grand Jury.

Many Proprietors and other wealthy persons do not subscribe. The general feeling is, that a Union Hospital is very necessary, and that the funds for each species of relief should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate. This opinion was expressed by some large Proprietors and other highly respectable and influential parties at Bantry.

Cahirciveen Union.

The *Cahirciveen Union* contains two Dispensaries, one at Cahirciveen, the other at Valencia. The latter is for a population of 2,614, in an area of 6,418 acres; the former for a population of 24,171, in an area of 139,478 acres. They are in charge of two Medical Officers.

At the Inspection of the Cahirciveen Dispensary, the Treasurer was not present, nor was any document produced to show that there is a *bonâ fide* Treasurer; but the Medical Officer read the following items from a book in which he keeps the accounts of the Funds of the Institution, leaving an impression on our minds that he himself is virtually the Treasurer.

Income for the Year 1840.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure for the Year 1840.	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions, - -	67	4	0	Doctor's Salary, - -	100	0	0
County Grant, - -	67	4	0	Cost of Medicines, -	35	2	0
Total,	£134	8	0	Total,	£135	2	0

No Invoice was produced to show when or where the Medicines were procured.

The Physician keeps an Apothecary's Shop, in a room off which the Dispensary Medicines are deposited. This room contained several empty bottles, but scarcely any Medicines. On enquiring if the Subscribers allowed him a sufficiency of good Medicines, he replied, that he is obliged to keep within the amount of the Presentment; and that, after paying himself £100 Salary, the remainder is paid for Medicines, which in 1840, he said, amounted to £35 2*s.* The appearance of the stock of Medicines, however, is such that it is to be feared the Sick are not sufficiently provided with them.

No Registry of Patients is kept at this Dispensary, but, on some occasions, the Physician takes an account of the number that apply: from this he averages the number of those who would be likely to apply during the year, and from such *data* he stated that 5,937 attended in 1840. No reliance can, of course, be placed on so loose and inaccurate a mode of Registration.

This Gentleman is not bound to pay domiciliary visits to the Sick Poor.

Under all these circumstances it is evident that a very large majority of the Sick in this Union are not efficiently attended, a circumstance of which some Subscribers who were at the Meeting held by us seemed to be so well aware, that they suggested that the Union should be divided into three Districts for domiciliary visits, rightly deeming it impossible for any person to perform that duty satisfactorily, and to give attendance at the Dispensary. In this suggestion and opinion we fully concur.

The Valencia Dispensary appears to be well attended; unlike that at Cahirciveen the stock of medicines was good, and the appearance of the place in which they were deposited satisfactory.

By a rule of this Dispensary, all who are not able to 6*d.* per visit, are attended *gratis*.

The Proprietor of this Island attended our meeting, and stated it to be his opinion that a few Hospital beds in Valencia are desirable. He advocates that public Medical relief should be afforded by Union taxation.

There is a Fever Hospital at Cahirciveen which contains 24 Beds, but it is capable of accommodating more, and, under judicious management, could be made available for the Fever cases that occur within such a distance as would admit of their removal there.

In reference to this Institution, we are compelled to remark, that it appears to be entirely in the management of the Medical Officer, the same that attends the Dispensary; that there is no superintending Committee, and that the disbursement of the funds are altogether at his discretion.

As Tralee is 40 miles from Cahirciveen, the County Infirmary is found to be almost useless to the Sick Poor of this Union. Such relief, if to be obtained at all, must of course be had at its centre, which is the arrangement desired by the Dispensary Subscribers.

Dunmanway Union.

The *Dunmanway Union* contains two Dispensaries, one at Ballyneen, the other at Dunmanway; but a large portion of the District of the former is in the Bandon Union. It is not possible for two Medical Men to attend the Sick Poor of a population of 30,138, which is that of the Union. It is probable that at least one-third of the Sick Poor must be unattended, when requiring domiciliary visits. The duties, as far as the Medical Officer's time admits, appear to be diligently performed.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. The Subscribers to the Dunmanway Dispensary, and the Medical Attendants to both observe, that the want of such an Institution is much to be regretted, as Fever is at times very prevalent, and the families of several who are attacked by it are reduced to pauperism, a circumstance which could, they state, be prevented were there an Hospital to which the Sick could be removed.

Neither is there any Infirmary relief within the reach of this Union. A few have been

received from it into the South Infirmary at Cork, but its distance prevents many serious cases from going there.

Dunmanway Union.

Neither the Subscribers nor Medical Attendants recollect that any Patient from this District has been admitted into the County Infirmary at Mallow, which is 50 miles distant. They suggest that a local Hospital to meet the wants of the Union is the most advisable mode of providing for Fever Patients and for accidents.

Several wealthy proprietors, absentees especially, in this Union, do not subscribe to either Dispensary. Other persons who are resident, and who possess considerable wealth are similarly circumstanced; and the subscriptions of some of each class are small in proportion to their properties.

The Subscribers advocate that the funds for Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate, particularly as they apprehend that the forthcoming payment of that tax will cause a considerable diminution of the present subscriptions; and they are anxious that a competent controlling authority should be created, and that the necessary Hospital relief should be supplied in a Union Institution.

Fermoy Union.

The *Fermoy Union* contains eleven Dispensaries, two of which, those at Kildorrery and Glanworth, are in charge of one Medical Officer. This number attended by ten Superintendents may be considered quite sufficient for a population of 85,000, especially as they are judiciously distributed.

Several of the proprietary and other persons possessing property in the several Districts are not Subscribers.

There are three Fever Hospitals in the Union; one at Fermoy, one at Mitchelstown, and the third at Rathcormack.

The Fermoy Hospital is an old house not originally intended, and therefore but ill adapted, for that purpose. It contains 24 Beds, there being room for about six more, but it is in want of almost every accommodation which is essential to the satisfactory working of such an Institution, and is confessedly inadequate to meet the wants of the Fermoy District. No cases of Fever have been hitherto refused admission, but the Governors express doubts as to the funds being sufficient in future, as they apprehend that on the payment of Poor Rate, the subscriptions will decrease, as some Subscribers have already given notice that they will not again contribute in that shape.

At a meeting of the Subscribers which was attended by several highly respectable individuals, amongst whom was the Chairman and other members of the Board of Guardians, an opinion was expressed that the funds for public Medical Relief ought to be provided from the Poor Rates, and that to render such Institutions effective, there should be a general regulating and controlling authority, which should be empowered to compel the Boards of Guardians, if necessary, to give such relief as the wants of the Sick might require.

On the day of inspection the Hospital contained ten Patients, all of whom resided in Fermoy or its Suburbs.

The Mitchelstown Fever Hospital is a good house, well adapted for its intended purpose. It contains 20 Beds, and could accommodate 30 Patients. On the day of inspection there were thirteen in it, all of whom resided within five miles of that Town. It is a well managed Institution; no case of Fever is ever refused admission, the Noble Proprietor of the Town, who subscribes liberally for its support, having given directions to that effect.

The Rathcormack Fever Hospital has been recently built. This also is a good house; it is capable of containing 16 Beds, and is a very well managed Institution. The admissions in the past year amounted to 221, all from within a distance of five miles.

As these three Hospitals are chiefly supported by the owners and occupiers in the three Dispensary Districts connected with them, the Fever cases occurring in the other Dispensary Districts, though occasionally admitted into the most contiguous Hospital, are not enabled to obtain such relief to a sufficient extent. This want is particularly felt in the Kilworth District, the very able and intelligent Medical Officer of which states in a printed report for the year 1840, that "Fever has been epidemic for many months, and of a bad type in many localities, affording lamentable evidence of the hopelessness of arresting its progress, or of treating it satisfactorily, without the aid of a Fever House suited to the wants of a population of 12,000. It may appear superfluous to remind the Subscribers that when one member of a family is seized with Fever, and not speedily removed, the disease is almost sure to attack the others in succession, and thus to linger on for months; and that medical treatment, however energetic, must constantly be neutralized by the neglect, ignorance, and prejudices of that class of Patients, no less than by their almost total want of every necessary, pure air, and intelligent nurse-tending. Eight members of one family were seized with Fever in quick succession, and I had all under treatment at the same time, huddled together on the floor, with one scanty bed of straw, and such want of bed clothes that three of the eight were obliged to remain in their every-day miserable garments. At this moment other families in the District are in almost equally appalling circumstances.

"It surely then cannot be matter of surprise that the epidemic Fevers of this country should be a fruitful source of pauperism, and, as a matter of course, fearfully increase the list of those who must be a burthen on the Poor Rate.

"In an economical point of view, it therefore may be useful if Subscribers to Dispensaries, Rate-payers, and Guardians, would earnestly discuss all the means by which pauperism and Poor Rates can be diminished. As one of those means in every sense loudly called for, I

venture to suggest the establishment of small Fever Hospitals in connexion with each Dispensary District."

Fermoy Union.

The tract of country for which the Kilworth Dispensary is intended, is situated between Fermoy and Mitchelstown. Under a better arrangement of Fever Hospital Districts the Fever cases in much of this might be enabled to obtain relief in one or other of these two Hospitals. For want of such arrangement, both, though tolerably contiguous, are nearly useless to the Kilworth District. A local one however is much advocated.

From that portion of this Union which is next to Mallow, fit objects for relief are admitted into the County Infirmary; but from the eastern parts of the Union, very few are enabled to obtain admission into it.

Kanturk Union.

The *Kanturk Union* contains five Dispensaries, which are in charge of the same number of Medical Officers, and are judiciously distributed. The duties are considered to be faithfully performed; but it is doubtful if the Sick Poor of a population of 71,844, spread over an area of 247,000 acres, could be efficiently attended by that number.

Subscriptions for a second Dispensary at Millstreet have been collected, in consequence it is stated, of some differences between those who supported one which has been long established there. 37 individuals have subscribed to this new one, which, if judiciously conducted, as there is reason to expect, will be productive of considerable advantage, the District being very large.

There is one Fever Hospital in the Union, at New Market. At the time of our inspection, it contained ten beds, but is capable of accommodating 30 Patients. It admitted 192 Cases in the Year 1840, of whom only 16 resided beyond five miles. Some Surgical Cases have also been treated in it, but they were supported by private Charity.

This appears a well managed Institution, and, though insufficient for the wants of the Union, might be made very available for a considerable portion of it, being in the centre of a large population.

In the other Dispensary Districts the want of Fever Hospital Relief is much deplored. It is stated that in the Boherbue District, "very few cases were admitted into the Newmarket Hospital; and this very great evil requires to be remedied, as the class of persons affected with Fever are unable to pay nursetenders, and are subject to the greatest privations, most of them being placed in huts built against ditches, exposed to the wind, rain and cold. The number of Fever Cases for the three last years was about an average of 100 each year. I have known seven full grown persons die of Fever in one house this year, from absolute distress; the mother is the survivor."

Many Proprietors and other persons of wealth in the Union do not subscribe to the Dispensaries in their respective Districts. At one, three large Proprietors, all non-resident, were mentioned. As the District is large and poor, and the demands on the Institution considerable, the funds are in general scarcely sufficient to meet the expenditure, even with much economy. But it is apprehended that the present amount of funds will not be permanent, and it is stated that the Treasurer supports the Charity by making advances. At Millstreet it was observed that "the funds are not likely to increase, but the Treasurer fears they will be less;" at Boherbue "it is apprehended the subscriptions will fall off in consequence of the Poor Rate;" at Kanturk "the funds are lower than usual, Subscribers have withdrawn, and many of them object on the ground of paying Poor Rate; no hope of increasing the funds, the Treasurer is in advance and could at any time close the Institution." At Freemount it is supposed that when the Poor Law is in operation, the subscriptions will decidedly fall off.

Several of the Subscribers and some of the Medical Superintendents of these Institutions, suggest that the funds should be raised on the principle of the Poor Rate, and that local boards be entrusted with their disbursement.

Generally the fit cases for Infirmary relief are unable to obtain it at Mallow, though within a moderate distance of it; but the Dispensary Medical Attendants as far as possible supply this defect.

In reference to attendance on difficult cases of Labour occurring amongst the Poor, the Physician to the Freemount Dispensary, makes the following observation, which we feel it our duty to quote,—"bad Midwifery cases are attended; 55 were attended last year, and of that number eight women died, and 19 of their children died. I attribute the great mortality of children to the unskilfulness of the Midwives, and their unwillingness to have a Physician called on until they themselves despair of being able to effect the delivery. To remedy this, I should strongly recommend that a qualified Midwife be attached to each Dispensary, who should be made responsible for any neglect in calling for medical aid in due time."

In our opinion these remarks are well deserving of attention. The want of intelligent or of tolerably instructed Midwives, has been frequently represented to us as a portion of the Medical relief system which demands public consideration.

Kenmare Union.

The *Kenmare Union* contains six Dispensaries, which are said to be intended for a population of 39,536. Portions of these Districts extend into other Unions, but, under satisfactory arrangements, four such Institutions would be sufficient for the Union population which is only 29,152.

The Medical Attendant of the Ardea Dispensary resides at Kenmare, which is ten statute miles from the Dispensary, which he attends three days in each week. As far as such non-residence admits, the duties are considered to be faithfully performed.

Kenmare Union.

This Gentleman was appointed in the year 1838, on the strict understanding that he would reside in the District, which was for some time complied with; but on his removal to Kenmare, the presenting authorities refused the County grant, under the provision in the 6th and 7th Wm. IV., c. 116, which makes it imperative on all Dispensary Attendants to reside within five statute miles of the Institution, if subsequently appointed.

The rule of giving the Medical Officer the surplus of the annual funds, exists at Kenmare, where a resolution is established that "it is imperative on the Doctor to procure £15 worth of Medicines each year;" what is paid for Medicines beyond that sum, is considered to be a deduction from the Surgeon's salary.

Domiciliary visits are not imperative in the Kenmare District. Such attendance is given in the Town, but the population of the rural District is deprived of any attendance.

Neither are pauper Midwifery cases visited in this portion of the District.

Unfit objects are here recommended by the shop-keepers, who are said to give tickets to parties worth £200 and upwards.

Though the Doctor of the Kilgarvan Dispensary resides in the District, and is a competent respectable man, as domiciliary attendance is not made imperative, the Protestant and Catholic Clergymen state that the want of it is a great evil. The latter observed that the lives of many poor females in parturition have been lost from want of professional attendance; it is considered that the Surgeon's salary, £60, is too small, and that until it be increased he cannot fairly be expected to perform these additional duties. This however is not likely to occur, as this year's subscriptions are less than those of the preceding year.

The Medical Attendant of the Templenoe Dispensary also resides in Kenmare, and, as he has no mode of conveyance, and declares his inability to provide one, his attendance on the Sick is in a great measure confined to such assistance as he gives at the Dispensary, which is four miles distant, on two days per week. Domiciliary attendance is not considered a portion of his duty, though occasionally, but not generally, he gives some.

Parties here are said to be supplied with advice and medicines in return for subscriptions even so small as 2*s.* 6*d.*

The Medical Attendant of the Sneem Dispensary gives domiciliary attendance on all but cases of difficult labour; the duties are considered to be well performed.

Subscribers of sums under a pound obtain advice and medicines for themselves and families, and have moreover the usual privileges of recommending other Patients.

The West Cove Dispensary has a second branch at Waterville, where the present Medical Officer resides, eleven miles (Irish) distant from West Cove. Until lately a Medical Officer resided at each branch; the discontinuance of one was said to be occasioned by the following circumstance:—It was usual with the Medical Attendant who resided at West Cove, to procure the necessary medicines for both branches, which he charged to the General Dispensary account, the Subscribers relying on the invoices and accounts furnished to them being the *bonâ fide* and correct sums which they should pay. On one occasion they ascertained that £16 6*s.* 7*d.* was charged for medicines supplied by him to the Waterville branch, for which the Druggist from whom he had obtained them only charged £7 14*s.* This discovery induced the Subscribers to remove this Gentleman, when on a further examination of the accounts it appeared, that the Doctor had paid in subscriptions for several persons who denied that he had been authorized to do so.

On the Surgeon's retirement from the situation, £50 was refunded to him by the Subscribers, partly in consideration of the money he had thus advanced.

This District is too extensive for one Medical Attendant; but the present Surgeon's duties are considered to be very diligently fulfilled.

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union, but in each Dispensary District the want of such relief was represented to be a great evil. A Roman Catholic Clergyman in the West Cove District, stated that lately a beggar who was ill of Fever slept in several houses in his Parish, and thus was a means of communicating that disease to so many individuals, that thirty fatal cases occurred amongst them. At Kilgarvan the names of several families were mentioned, who had been reduced to the greatest destitution by the deaths of the heads of families from Fever. The Poor when affected with it would, it is said, most gladly avail themselves of any contiguous Fever Hospital; at present they betake themselves to the arches of lime kilns, and the shelter formed by the projections of rocks and old walls, having no other resource.

None from this Union are sent to the Killarney or Cahirciveen Fever Hospitals. The County Fever Institution at Tralee is quite useless to this Union.

The Marquis of Lansdowne's Agent, and several of the Subscribers to the Dispensaries, consider that a law is required by which the Union would be enabled to tax itself for its own Medical wants, being then relieved from County Assessment for any other Institutions.

The Marquis has frequently offered to give a donation of £50 for the purpose of assisting in establishing a Fever Hospital at Kenmare.

The remoteness of the County Infirmary, 40 Irish miles from Kenmare, prevents it from being of any material advantage to the fit cases which occur in this Union, portions of which are 60 miles from Tralee.

Killarney Union.

There are five Dispensaries in the *Killarney Union*, situated at Killarney, Cloghereen, Knockacoppill, Aughnagarry, and Miltown. A sixth at Aglish with a branch at Molahiffe has been lately discontinued, owing to the refusal of a County Grant. Under a more judi-

Appendix (D.)

Reports of Assistant Commissioners.

Killarney Union.

cious arrangement and better distribution, this number of Dispensaries would be sufficient for the wants of the Union.

As domiciliary attendance on the Sick Poor is not an imperative duty at more than two of these Dispensaries, and as the Districts of these two are very extensive, and the Medical Officers non-resident, the relief afforded cannot be sufficient.

In the Aglish and Molahiffe District, no public provision whatever is made to relieve the Sick Poor.

The registration at each Dispensary is so defective that no reliance can be placed on the returns which are given.

The Killarney Dispensary is connected with an Hospital which contains 50 Beds, to the support of which its funds are chiefly appropriated. It is a very well conducted Institution, and affords considerable relief to Fever Patients as well as to those who are more usually sent to Infirmaries, there being some beds for the treatment of serious surgical cases, an arrangement which affords much satisfaction, as many of that class could not be removed to Tralee, which is 20 miles distant.

There are 2 Physicians and an Apothecary attached to this Institution. In the year 1840, 529 cases of Fever and 121 Infirmary Patients were treated in it.

The funds for the support of this Institution are derived from annual subscriptions, County grant, interest on capital stock, and a surplus fund which remains of a large subscription paid some years ago by the friends of two Candidates for the situation of Medical Attendant to the Hospital. Of late, owing to the increased demand for admission, this fund has been considerably diminished; it is stated that the present funds are insufficient to purchase several necessary articles of furniture, or to meet any increase of Fever.

Hitherto no attempt has been made to obtain the usual double grant for this Hospital, but it is to be sought for at the ensuing Assizes.

The Governors have a capital stock consisting of two sums (£1000 and £400,) the interest received on this is added to the subscriptions, and a corresponding sum obtained from the County. The Sick it is true are benefitted by this, but it would seem to be an irregular, if not an illegal, mode of obtaining funds. The larger sum which for some years had been lent on a property in the neighbourhood, has lately been paid to the Treasurer of the Dispensary and Hospital, who pays interest for it. We are of opinion that such funds should be vested in public securities. The smaller sum is lodged in the Savings' Bank.

Many comfortable farmers, and other equally unfit objects, seek for and obtain relief at this Dispensary, and the Medical Officers state that they do not feel at liberty to refuse such persons for fear of offending the Subscribers.

There are many Proprietors and others able if willing, to subscribe in the Union, but who contribute nothing; this is considered unjust, as the tenantry on their properties obtain advice and admission into the Hospital.

Many Subscribers including the Agent of large estates in the County, expressed themselves favourable to having the Medical Charities supported by a compulsory Rate.

Kinsale Union.

The *Kinsale Union* contains six* Dispensaries, which with judicious arrangements would be amply sufficient for a population of 41,929.

There is a Fever Hospital at Kinsale. It is a very commodious one, capable of containing 50 Beds, there are now 38 in it. It is intended chiefly for the Town and Liberties of Kinsale, containing a population of 14,000, but admits a few from beyond these limits.

This Hospital is sufficient for the wants of the Union, but at present nearly two-thirds of the Districts of which it is composed are not benefitted by it. An arrangement which would make it available for the fit cases occurring in the contiguous part of the Union appears very desirable, as it would lessen the expense on the present District, and would afford relief on moderate terms to the parts now excluded.

This is a well managed Institution.

From that portion of the Union nearest to Cork, some Patients are sent to the Fever Hospital there.

No advantage is derived from the County (Mallow) Infirmary by the Sick in this Union, but the Kinsale Fever Hospital admits serious casualties, and has afforded very considerable relief to that class of Patients. This relief however is chiefly given to those who reside in the Town and Liberties. In the year 1840, 163 Patients were admitted in the Hospital, all of whom resided within five miles. Some from the Union are admitted into the City of Cork Infirmaries, but such benefits are found to result from the admission of surgical Patients into the Kinsale Hospital, that the general feeling is in favor of its being made available for the entire Union. There are 48 Subscribers to this Charity who pay from 6*d.* to 10*s.* each.

Several Owners and Occupiers are non-subscribers to the Dispensaries in their respective Districts. It is apprehended that the subscriptions in some will fall off, and in this event it is considered that the funds should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate.

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* We feel it our duty to relate the following circumstance, which shows by what an uncertain tenure even well qualified men, who are legally appointed, now hold Dispensaries:—On the occurrence of a vacancy in the Ballinahassig Dispensary, five candidates offered; one, a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, was appointed by a majority of seventeen votes. The parties who supported another Candidate withdrew from this and got up a second Dispensary, to which the County Grant was transferred, when the original Institution ceased to exist.

Macroom Union.

There are four Dispensaries in the *Macroom Union*, in which is also a portion of the Ovens Dispensary. They are in charge of five Medical Officers, who are considered to perform their duties diligently and efficiently.

There is no Fever Hospital in the Union. Some in the nearest direction to Cork are enabled to obtain admission into the City Hospital; but the great majority of such Patients are unable to avail themselves of that or of any similar Institution.

Such relief to be supplied in the Union is deemed to be much wanted.

In one Dispensary District several Proprietors and other wealthy persons are not Subscribers, and the contributions of others are small in proportion to their means. In all, this is stated to be more or less the case. In the Donoughmore District many obtain Dispensary aid whose circumstances would enable them to pay moderately for it. In that of Magourney, persons are entitled to the Physician's attendance and to medicines on paying a subscription of Ten Shillings to the Charity.

The County Infirmary affords no benefit to the Sick of this Union. Some are admitted into the Cork Infirmaries, but the relief so afforded is very inconsiderable.

Mallow Union.

There are five* Dispensaries in the *Mallow Union*. They are judiciously distributed, and are in charge of five Medical Officers. But it is not possible for that number to attend the Sick Poor of a population of 76,583.

Persons in comfortable circumstances obtain Dispensary relief in the Doneraile and Ballyclough Districts. It is stated that some subscriptions have been lately withdrawn because relief was refused to such persons who had been recommended by certain Subscribers.

The registration of Patients at these Dispensaries is defective.

Several wealthy owners and occupiers are not Subscribers, and the subscriptions of others are not in proportion to the extent of their properties.

The Subscribers of the Churchtown Dispensary have agreed to pay the Apothecary a fixed sum annually for medicines.

There are two Fever Hospitals in the Union; one at Mallow, the other at Buttevant.

The Mallow Fever Hospital is capable of containing 24 Beds, but only 16 are provided. It is intended for the Town and suburbs of Mallow, and refuses such Patients as reside outside one mile from the Town, unless they pay 10*s.* each, which poor persons cannot afford. This inconvenient arrangement was probably forced on those who established the Charity; but it is one which proves the necessity of such legislation as would ensure that all Institutions got up by public funds should be made as available as possible to those within the territorial sphere of such Charities. Here, on the contrary, whilst a County Grant is obtained for the support of an Hospital, those who reside all around Mallow beyond the distance of one mile, are deprived of its advantages, whilst the whole District is taxed for it, and whilst no similar Institution is within reach of those unfortunate persons who require such relief.

As showing how defective this arrangement is, it may be mentioned that the Hospital at the time of our visit did not contain a single Patient.

Hitherto the subscriptions and County grant have been sufficient for the support of the Patients, but it is now apprehended that this will not be the case, as many Subscribers have declared that they will discontinue their subscriptions when called on to pay Poor Rate.

Many necessary articles, as Bedticks, Sheets, Blankets, &c., are wanted.

The Buttevant Fever Hospital is capable of containing 24 Beds, and is provided with 18. It is attended by the two Physicians who are in charge of the Dispensary. The sum expended for its support is paid out of the common fund for the Dispensary and Hospital, which though the accounts are apparently kept under separate heads, are in reality the same: unlike the former it admits all Patients that offer, no matter where they reside. This Hospital and the Dispensary are very well managed.

These two Hospitals under such arrangements as would entitle Patients to be admitted from a certain defined District around each, could readily be made very available for the Union. At present a large portion of it is excluded from any such relief. This want is particularly felt at Doneraile, where for the last three years considerable exertions have been

* The difficulties created by the want of some regulating and controlling authority may be somewhat understood from the following facts, which were elicited by an enquiry into the state of the Glountane Dispensary:—

The Medical Officer, from circumstances not necessary to be here stated, wrote to the Treasurer, informing him that he would resign on a day specified in his letter. A meeting of the Subscribers was duly convened, and held on that day, when the Physician refused to resign. After some time, he actually did resign, fixing the day on which such resignation was to take place. A general meeting of the Subscribers was regularly convened, for the purpose of receiving the resignation, and of appointing a successor. The Physician now stated that he did not wish to resign, but the Subscribers proceeded to make and did make an appointment. The Treasurer claimed the property of the Institution, *i. e.* the medicines, books, &c., from the Gentleman who had resigned, but he refused to comply, and continued to act in his former capacity. One of the Assistant Commissioners went to Glountane to inquire into the difficulties thus created, and after having heard a full statement of the circumstances, declared that, in his opinion, the key of the Dispensary House, and all the property of the Institution, ought to be immediately given up by the Gentleman who kept them. This advice was acted on, on the following day. But two candidates claimed the Dispensary, each alleging that he had had a majority of votes. On examining the merits of the case, it was ascertained that one had a majority of *bonâ fide* votes, and that some who voted for the other were not qualified to do so. The Assistant Commissioner then stated that, in his opinion, the former was duly elected, and that he should be put in charge of the Dispensary, which was accordingly done. It may be right to add, that the Assistant Commissioner informed the Subscribers that he possessed no authority but that of inquiring and reporting. The Subscribers and the Medical Gentlemen, however, adopted his suggestions, and thus put an end to a very unseemly dispute, which really caused much angry feelings in the District, and which greatly prevented the Sick Poor from receiving efficient Dispensary relief.

Mallow Union.

made by Lord Doneraile and others, to establish a similar Institution. A respectable amount of subscriptions was collected there for that purpose in the year 1838, but the County grant was refused several times by the fiscal authorities, who are stated to have alleged that their refusal arose from an expectation that in future these Institutions would be supported out of the Poor Rates, and that they waited until that tax comes to be levied.

From the Churchtown Dispensary District some are admitted into the Charleville Fever Hospital.

The Mallow or County of Cork Infirmary is capable of containing 36 Beds, but it is only provided with 16. Objects who greatly stand in need of admission are frequently refused from want of funds. On the day of our inspection three very urgent cases were refused, though there were only 16 in the house. It is attended by two Medical Officers, the senior of whom states that the refusals are to the admissions as five to one.

This Hospital is chiefly supported by County and Treasury grants; but the subscriptions for it exceed those obtained at most County Infirmaries. In the year 1840, they amounted to £84 11*s.*

There is no fixed dietary for the Hospital; milk is the only article supplied by contract, all others are purchased by the Matron, who appears to be the chief manager of the fiscal part of the Institution, and to discharge her duties faithfully.

There is neither hot nor cold bath in the Hospital.

But insufficient as this Infirmary now is for the wants of the County, it is likely to be more so. Hitherto the Grand Jury has granted about £160 each half year for its support; at the last Assizes they reduced it to £131 9*s.* 2*d.*

Thus the Infirmary of the largest County in Ireland, is that which absolutely receives the smallest County grant, and which gives the least relief. As at present circumstanced, it is inadequate to afford the necessary relief not only to the County, but to the Union, which is only about a tenth part of the County.

The Medical Officers of this Hospital, though not expected to do so, give very efficient domiciliary attendance on the Sick Poor in the Town and suburbs, but those of a large District around Mallow are excluded from any such advantage. The attendance on extern Patients appears to be very efficient.

This Charity like others in Ireland, has suffered by a defaulting Treasurer, of whom £144 is due, and as he died lately it is feared it will not be recovered.

Midleton Union.

The *Midleton Union* contains seven Dispensaries, which would seem to be sufficient for a population of 73,878.

There are three Fever Hospitals in this Union, one at Midleton, one at Youghal, and the third at Castlemartyr.

The Midleton Hospital contains 32 Beds, some of which are occasionally appropriated to Surgical Cases. The Youghal Hospital is capable of containing 40 Beds, and is divided into Fever and Infirmary wards; and that at Castlemartyr contains 14 Beds, but has room for about 28.

This extent of Hospital accommodation is amply sufficient for the wants of the Sick Poor of the Union, were the arrangements and funds such as would admit of the necessary relief being afforded.

The Youghal Hospital is only intended for the Sick of St. Mary's Parish, leaving a large surrounding District unprovided for. The same observation applies to Dispensary relief in this District. An arrangement which would include the contiguous part of the County of Waterford in the Youghal Hospital District, appears to be very desirable, as it is so remote from Dungarvan and Lismore, that Hospital Patients cannot conveniently go to either.

The funds here have enabled the Committee to give considerable relief, but it is apprehended that they will decline.

An arrangement, however, is necessary, by which the Sick Poor of the neighbouring Parishes should be included within the sphere of those Institutions, paying their proportion of the expense.

At the period of our inspection, the funds of the Midleton Hospital were exhausted, and the Surgeon informed the Governors that he intended to close it on the following day, unless means were adopted to enable him to meet the expense.

It is stated that there are many Proprietors and other wealthy persons connected with the Union, who give no subscriptions, or who only give very small ones. Of the former class one was mentioned, whose rental in the Midleton District is £10,000 per annum, but who only subscribes one guinea; and another whose rental is £5,000 per annum who gives no subscription. It was also mentioned, that one of the most wealthy owners, and an influential person in the Union, had lately declared that he would subscribe no more, having to pay Poor Rate.

Several of the Subscribers and some of the Medical Officers are of opinion that a sufficiency of subscriptions and County grants cannot in future be obtained for the support of the Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals.

The remoteness of the County Infirmary at Mallow is stated to be a cause of its being totally useless to this part of the County. Hence the efforts to provide such relief at Youghal and Midleton. By these efforts it is partially afforded, but though much good is done, the relief is not sufficient for the wants of such as really require Infirmary aid, which it is the general opinion, should be given in the Union by local Institutions. It is also con-

sidered that the funds for the support of Fever and Dispensary Patients should be raised on the principle of the Poor Rate, and that some regulating and controlling authority should be created to supervise the whole machinery.

Skibbereen Union.

The *Skibbereen Union* contains seven Dispensaries, which are in charge of the same number of Medical Officers, who there is reason to believe discharge their duties very faithfully. As the population is 94,746, this number of Medical Attendants cannot be sufficient to meet the wants of the Sick Poor of the Union.

The population of some Districts, that of Skibbereen especially, is too large to enable one Medical Man to attend it; an Assistant in such cases appears to be necessary. But here the funds will not admit of this additional Officer.

The funds of some of these Institutions are barely sufficient to enable the Governors with great economy, to pay the Medical Attendant a moderate salary, and to purchase such medicines as are required for the Sick Poor. But at others the funds are not even in so good condition.

The Physician to the Castletownsend Dispensary states that "the funds are not sufficient to enable us to use medicines of good quality." But, "many persons whose circumstances would clearly enable them to pay for medical attendance get advice *gratis*." And "there are many landlords resident and non-resident, who do not subscribe at all, and some very inadequately in proportion to their means. My own private friends who are non-resident, subscribe to prevent the Institution from falling to the ground entirely."

In the same District it is stated that "persons say they will not pay Poor Rate and subscribe to a Dispensary."

How much the support of these Charities depends on casual circumstances may be collected from a statement made in reference to the state of the funds of the Glandore Dispensary :— "It is not apprehended that any diminution of the present Subscribers will take place, unless the present Physician should resign, in which case the Institution would lose from 16 to 20 Guineas contributed by his family connexions, who are not otherwise interested in the District."

There is no Fever Hospital in this Union.. The want of it is much felt; the more especially as those connected with it pay their share of the County Assessment for thirteen Institutions of this class which exist in the County, all of which are so remote that no access can be had to them by the Sick from hence. Generally the opinion is that such relief should be afforded by Union or local Hospitals. But as it is apprehended that the subscriptions for the Dispensaries (which are not contributed by several owners and other wealthy persons) will decrease when the Poor Rate comes to be paid, and as subscriptions could not now be obtained for Fever Hospitals, it is considered by many that the funds for both species of relief should be of a compulsory nature, and be raised in an equitable manner.

Mallow and Cork are so remote from this Union that no advantage is obtained from the Infirmaries there.

DENIS PHELAN, M.R.C.S., Lond.

MAURICE CORR, M.D. M.R.C.S., Ireland,

Assistant Poor Law Commissioners.

To

The Poor Law Commissioners

TABLE of the several Public MEDICAL CHARITIES existing within the limits of the undermentioned Unions in the Years 1839-40.

Name and Locality of Institution.	INCOME. Subscriptions. £ s. d.	Parliamentary and County Grants. £ s. d.	From other sources. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.	EXPENDITURE. Salaries of Medical Officers. £ s. d.	Medicine. £ s. d.	Contingencies. £ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.	Intern Patients. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Total.	Extern Patients. Dispensary.	Dispensations of Medicine.	Districts. Area.	Population.	Proportion of Patients to Population. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.	Subscribers. Of £1 1s. or more.	Under £1 1s.	Total.	Average Cost of each Patient. Infirmary, £ s. d.	Fever Hospital. £ s. d.	Dispensary, s. d.
ANTRIM UNION																								
Dispens'. Antrim	36 0 0	36 0 0	– – –	72 0 0	50 0 0	22 17 8	10 5 1	83 2 9	–	–	–	1,700	5,100	11,323	7,213	–	–	1 to 4¼	15	–	15	–	–	0 11¾
Crumlin	52 9 0	52 9 0	– – –	104 18 0	50 0 0	48 0 0	8 0 0	106 0 0	–	–	–	–	4,161	48,644	5,336	–	–	–	13	5	18	–	–	–
Doagh	49 11 6	46 9 0	– – –	96 0 6	71 8 6	10 16 6	13 15 6	96 0 6	–	–	–	1,152	–	31,121	11,382	–	–	1– 9⅝	36	8	44	–	–	1 8
Randalstown	36 16 0	36 16 0	– – –	73 12 0	50 0 0	17 11 11	4 3 1	71 15 0	–	–	–	–	2,520	47,464	19,810	–	–	–	14	40	54	–	–	–
Total,	174 16 6	171 14 0	– – –	346 10 6	221 8 6	99 6 1	36 3 8	356 18 3	–	–	–	–	–	138,552	43,741	–	–	–	78	53	131	–	–	–
BALLYCASTLE UNION.																								
Ballycastle Fever Hospital	– – –	85 6 0	1 15 0	87 1 0	50 0 0	3 11 11	35 11 0	89 2 11	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Dispens'. Ballycastle	31 8 0	31 8 0	1 14 0	64 10 0	50 0 0	15 13 6	5 15 6	71 9 0	–	–	–	750	–	46,208	14,460	–	–	1–20½	18	4	22	–	–	1 10¾
Cushendall	52 12 0	52 12 0	– – –	105 4 0	50 0 0	38 18 1	8 15 2	97 13 3	–	–	–	984	2,932	29,956	4,173	–	–	1– 4½	28	19	47	–	–	1 11¾
Cushendun	40 0 0	40 0 0	– – –	80 0 0	40 0 0	22 19 2	14 14 7	77 13 9	–	–	–	820	–	22,916	4,075	–	–	1– 5	22	11	33	–	–	1 10½
Total,	124 0 0	209 6 0	3 9 0	336 15 0	190 0 0	81 2 8	64 16 3	335 18 11	–	–	–	2,554	–	99,080	22,708	–	–	1– 8⅝	68	34	102	–	–	1 11½
BALLYMENA UNION.																								
Disp'. Ahoghill	37 2 0	38 9 0	– – –	75 11 0	40 0 0	21 19 7½	8 2 8	70 2 3½	–	–	–	600	–	–	–	–	–	–	15	8	23	–	–	2 4
Toome-Bridge	39 10 0	39 10 0	– – –	79 0	45 0 0	25 13 0	7 7 0	78 0 0	–	–	–	288	–	–	–	–	–	–	26	–	26	–	–	5 5
Total,	76 12 0	77 19 0	– – –	154 11 0	85 0 0	47 12 7½	15 9 8	148 2 3½	–	–	–	888	–	–	–	–	–	–	41	8	49	–	–	3 4
BALLYMONEY UNION.																								
Dispens'. Ballymoney	43 10 0	43 10 0	– – –	87 0 0	45 0 0	28 14 8	9 0 6	82 15 2	–	–	–	1,134	–	43,893	17,672	–	–	1–15½	21	12	33	–	–	1 5½
Dervock	32 0 0	32 0 0	15 4 3	79 4 3	30 0 0	18 11 9½	6 10 1	55 1 10½	–	–	–	440	–	13,752	5,641	–	–	1–12⅔	27	4	31	–	–	2 6
Loughguile	37 4 11	35 9 0	– – –	72 13 11	50 0 0	16 5 2	4 14 11	71 0 1	–	–	–	761	–	42,029	11,051	–	–	1–14½	22	3	25	–	–	1 10½
Tamlaght O'Crilly	31 9 0	31 9 0	– – –	62 18 0	44 3 9	16 14 3	2 0 0	62 18 0	–	–	–	1,690	11,140	14,720	8,390	–	–	1– 5	25	–	25	–	–	0 8½
Total,	144 3 11	142 8 0	15 4 3	301 16 2	169 3 9	80 5 10½	22 5 6	271 15 1½	–	–	–	4,025	–	114,394	42,754	–	–	1–10⅝	95	19	114	–	–	1 4½
CLOGHER UNION.																								
Dispens'. Aughnacloy	57 9 0	51 5 0	– – –	108 14 0	71 10 0	19 11 4½	3 14 7	94 15 11½	–	–	–	952	3,526	23,221	10,019	–	–	1–10½	26	–	26	–	–	1 11⅝
Ballygawley	59 12 6	59 12 6	2 7 0	121 12 0	80 0 0	36 0 0	7 0 0	123 0 0	–	–	–	–	4,360	21,797	10,692	–	–	–	34	3	37	–	–	–
Clogher	56 0 0	56 0 0	3 4 0	115 4 0	80 0 0	16 15 2	13 16 9½	110 11 11½	–	–	–	–	2,766	49,761	17,994	–	–	–	14	–	14	–	–	–
Total,	173 1 6	166 17 6	5 11 0	345 10 0	231 10 0	72 6 6½	24 11 4½	328 7 11	–	–	–	–	10,652	94,779	38,705	–	–	–	74	3	77	–	–	–
COLERAINE UNION.																								
Coleraine Fever Hospital	144 15 6	168 0 0	– – –	312 15 6	– – –	– – –	107 9 6	107 9 6	–	70	70	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	42	44	86	–	1 10 8½	–
Dispensaries. Ballyaghran	34 10 0	34 10 0	0 16 5½	69 16 5½	63 0 0	12 13 1½	3 1 2½	78 14 4	–	–	–	233	–	3,896	2,746	–	–	1–12	39	–	39	–	–	6 9
Bushmills	20 9 6	20 9 6	– – –	40 19 0	20 0 0	18 19 1	– – –	38 19 1	–	–	–	299	–	–	11,625	–	–	1–39	13	11	24	–	–	2 7½
Aghadowey	60 3 0	60 3 0	– – –	120 6 0	80 0 0	33 2 0	7 4 0	120 6 0	–	–	–	1,172	–	18,072	8,572	–	–	1– 7½	38	–	38	–	–	2 0¾
Coleraine	72 11 6	71 10 6	4 0 2½	148 2 2½	93 15 0	32 10 5	22 10 0	148 15 5	–	–	–	4,154	9,393	31,557	18,211	–	–	1– 4½	37	79	116	–	–	0 8¾
Garvagh	70 14 0	70 14 0	– – –	141 8 0	87 13 1	45 7 5	8 7 6	141 8 0	–	–	–	1,485	–	31,094	10,112	–	–	1– 6¾	42	–	42	–	–	1 10¾
Total,	403 3 6	425 7 0	4 16 8	833 7 2	344 8 1	142 12 0½	148 12 2½	635 12 4	–	70	70	7,343	–	–	51,266	–	–	1– 7	211	134	345	–	1 10 8½	1 5½

	Cookstown Union.																																					
Dispens'.	Coagh	22	10	6	22	10	6	–	–	–	45	1	0	50	0	0	12	7	9	–	–	–	62	7	9	–	–	–	713	–	27,188	11,282	–	–	1–15⅝	13	2	15	–	–	1	9
	Cookstown	58	18	6	58	18	6	1	1	1	118	18	1	100	0	0	5	17	8	–	–	–	105	17	8	–	–	–	1,811	–	58,307	21,056	–	–	1–11⅛	26	1	27	–	–	1	2
	Pomeroy	33	15	0	33	15	0	–	–	–	67	10	0	51	0	0	20	0	0	–	–	–	71	0	0	–	–	–	1,067	–	15,950	7,183	–	–	1– 6⅜	17	4	21	–	–	1	4
	Stewartstown	68	6	0	68	6	0	–	–	–	136	12	0	80	0	0	35	11	0	11	12	6	127	3	6	–	–	–	1,625	–	54,788	26,298	–	–	1–16 1/16	32	–	32	–	–	1	6¾
	Total,	183	10	0	183	10	0	1	1	1	368	1	1	281	0	0	73	16	5	11	12	6	366	8	11	–	–	–	5,216	–	156,233	65,819	–	–	1–12½	88	7	95	–	–	1	4½
	Dungannon Union.																																					
Disp	Benburb	62	12	0	62	12	0	–	–	–	125	4	0	85	0	0	44	5	1½	48	19	0½	178	4	2	–	–	–	1,739	6,117	16,186	11,539	–	–	1– 6⅝	8	–	8	–	–	2	0⅝
	Dungannon	96	17	9	96	17	9	–	–	–	193	15	6	200	0	0	40	9	6	21	6	4	261	15	10	–	–	–	2,330	–	30,457	23,693	–	–	1–10⅛	32	–	32	–	–	2	3
	Total,	159	9	9	159	9	9	–	–	–	318	19	6	285	0	0	84	14	7½	70	5	4½	440	0	9	–	–	–	4,069	–	46,643	35,232	–	–	1– 8 3/16	40	–	40	–	–	2	2
	Larne Union.																																					
Disp'	Carrickfergus	8	6	0	8	6	0	–	–	–	16	12	0	–	–	–	16	10	0	–	–	–	16	10	0	–	–	–	620	–	16,700	8,706	–	–	1–14	7	3	10	–	–	0	6⅜
	Larne	41	10	0	41	10	0	1	6	9	84	6	9	50	0	0	17	16	1	9	16	6	77	12	7	–	–	–	858	–	30,858	11,434	–	–	1–13⅜	25	–	25	–	–	1	10
	Total,	49	16	0	49	16	0	1	6	9	100	18	9	50	0	0	34	6	1	9	16	6	94	2	7	–	–	–	1,478	–	47,558	20,140	–	–	1–13 7/16	32	3	35	–	–	1	3½
	Magherafelt Union.																																					
Dispensaries.	Belaghy, Draperstown and Ballynascreen	53	9	6	51	19	0	–	–	–	105	8	6	60	0	0	61	11	2	0	14	0	122	5	2	–	–	–	5,844	–	37,819	10,854	–	–	1– 1 1/16	23	8	31	–	–	0	5
	Maghera	42	4	6	42	3	6	–	–	–	84	8	0	50	0	0	16	8	11⅓	17	2	7⅓	83	11	7	–	–	–	3,200	–	–	–	–	–	–	19	2	21	–	–	0	6⅓
	Magherafelt	49	10	6	48	1	0	–	–	–	97	11	6	65	0	0	17	18	3	5	0	0	87	18	3	–	–	–	1,873	7,327	8,290	7,218	–	–	1– 3⅜	21	3	24			0	10⅔
	Moneymore	30	4	0	30	4	0	–	–	–	60	8	0	30	4	0	45	3	3	0	6	6	75	13	9	–	–	–	1,058	–	–	–	–	–	–	12	1	13			1	5½
	Total,																																					
	Ballyshannon Union.																																					
Dispens'.	Ballintra	68	19	6	68	19	6	–	–	–	137	19	0	63	0	0	48	18	6	26	4	0	138	2	6	–	–	–	1,458	–	35,433	8,501	–	–	1– 5⅞	19	1	20	–	–	1	10⅔
	Ballyshannon	75	0	0	75	0	0	–	–	–	150	0	0	105	0	0	24	1	9	13	17	3	142	19	0	–	–	–	4,453	15,915	32,058	17,181	–	–	1– 3⅞	28	22	50	–	–	0	7¾
	Churchill	62	15	0	62	15	0	5	11	4½	131	1	4½	50	0	0	66	6	6	10	7	6½	146	14	0½	–	–	–	1,954	–	68,867	14,624	–	–	1– 7¼	17	20	37	–	–	1	6
	Kinlough	64	8	0	64	8	0	7	10	0	136	6	0	105	0	0	20	18	6	11	4	8	137	3	2	–	–	–	1,280	6,246	37,000	10,000	–	–	1–7 7/16	31	3	34	–	–	2	1⅜
	Total,	271	2	6	271	2	6	13	1	4½	555	6	4½	343	0	0	160	5	3	61	13	5½	564	18	8½	–	–	–	9,145	–	174,358	50,306	–	–	1– 5½	78	26	104	–	–	1	2 13/16
	Bailieborough Union.																																					
Dispens'.	Bailieborough	53	6	0	53	6	0	–	–	–	106	12	0	50	0	0	46	13	4	15	2	6	111	15	10	–	–	–	2.393	–	27,937	19,394	–	–	1– 8⅛	33	–	33	–	–	0	11¼
	Kingscourt	64	19	0	64	19	0	–	15	0	130	13	0	80	0	0	15	1	2	3	12	0	98	13	2	–	–	–	1,160	–	14,410	4,844	–	–	1– 4½	10	–	10	–	–	1	8⅜
	Shircock	35	18	6	35	18	6	–	–	–	71	17	0	40	0	0	28	0	2	14	17	7	82	17	9	–	–	–	784	2,352	15,601	9,025	–	–	1–11¼	21	3	24	–	–	2	1⅜
	Total,	154	3	6	154	3	6	–	15	0	309	2	0	170	0	0	89	14	8	33	12	1	293	6	9	–	–	–	4,337	–	57,918	33,263	–	–	1–7 7/16	64	3	67	–	–	1	4½
	Cavan Union.																																					
Cavan Infirmary		6	6	0	683	0	6	132	13	10½	822	0	4½	211	6	8	88	7	11⅔	670	1	9⅔	969	16	5½	508	–	508		–	384,181	227,933	1–448½	–	–	2	–	2	1	18	2¼	–	–
Cavan Fever Hospital		91	18	9	500	0	0	–	–	–	591	18	9	81	0	0	90	14	3	479	3	1½	650	17	4½	–	659	659	–	–	384,181	227,933	–	1–315⅝	–	30	–	30	–	0	19	9	–
Dispensaries.	Arvagh	27	9	6	27	9	6	–	–	–	54	19	0	27	9	6	26	0	0	3	0	0	56	9	6	–	–	–	–	611	–	–	–	–	17	4	21	–	–	–	–
	Ballinagh	28	12	0	28	12	0	4	0	0	61	4	0	39	0	0	18	0	0	4	4	0	61	4	0	–	–	–	–	2,570	–	–	–	–	15	11	26	–	–	–	–
	Ballyconnell	41	15	6	41	15	6	–	–	–	83	11	0	50	0	0	30	5	3	3	8	0	83	13	3	–	–	–	–	1,290	–	–	–	–	19	4	23	–	–	–	–
	Belturbet	53	2	0	53	1	2	18	7	6	124	10	8	67	10	0	65	17	7⅓	4	0	10	137	8	5⅓	–	–	–	1,750	–	39,961	21,033	–	–	1–12 1/16	30	–	30	–	–	1	6⅞
	Cavan	53	4	0	53	4	0	7	10	0	113	18	0	50	0	0	43	4	5	13	0	0	106	4	5	–	–	–	–	2,482	17,703	11,391	–	–	–	37	4	41	–	–	–	–
	Crossdoney	21	0	0	21	0	0	–	–	–	42	0	0	30	0	0	11	7	5	3	9	0	44	16	5	–	–	–	–	4,136	–	–	–	–	16	–	16	–	–	–	–
	Killeshandra	38	0	6	41	12	0	–	–	–	79	12	6	50	0	0	45	0	0	7	0	0	102	0	0	–	–	–	1,575	–	–	–	–	–	–	14	5	19	–	–	1	3½
	Stradone	30	10	0	30	10	0	–	–	–	61	0	0	40	0	0	17	15	9	–	–	–	57	15	9	–	–	–	–	3,245	–	–	–	–	11	–	11	–	–	–	–
	Ballymachugh and Drumlummon	63	17	0	63	17	0	–	–	–	127	14	0	57	10	0	45	18	0½	22	0	6½	125	8	7	–	–	–	1,740	–	–	–	–	–	–	40	3	43	–	–	1	5¼
	Total,	455	15	3	1,544	1	8	162	11	4½	2,162	8	3½	703	16	2	482	10	8¾	1,209	7	3¾	2,395	14	2½	508	659	1167	–	–	–	–	1–488½	1–345⅝	–	231	31	262	1	18	2¼	0	19	9	–

TABLE of the several Public Medical Charities existing within the limits of the undermentioned Unions in the Years 1839-40.—*continued.*

Name and Locality of Institution.	INCOME.				EXPENDITURE.				Intern Patients.			Extern Patients.		Districts.		Proportion of Patients to Population.			Subscribers.			Average Cost of each Patient.		
	Subscriptions.	Parliamentary and County Grants.	From other sources.	Total.	Salary of Medical Officers.	Medicine.	Contingencies.	Total.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Total.	Dispensary.	Dispensations or Medicine.	Area.	Population.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.	Of £1 1s. or more.	Under £1 1s.	Total.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.														£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.
CLONES UNION.																								
Clones Fever Hospital	49 0 0	90 0 0	60 3 10	199 3 10	40 0 0	– – –	161 12 9½	201 12 9½	–	267	267	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	30	36	–	0 15 1¼	–
Dispens'. Clones	39 17 7½	39 17 7½	16 14 2	96 9 5	40 0 0	39 7 11½	10 12 8	90 0 7½	–	–	–	2.529	–	–	–	–	–	–	19	3	22	–	–	0 8½
Newbliss	69 2 0	69 2 0	– – –	138 4 0	70 0 0	60 16 6	7 7 6	138 4 0	–	–	–	3,827	–	–	–	–	–	–	41	–	41	–	–	0 8 $\frac{2}{3}$
Nowtownbutler	64 15 0	64 15 0	– – –	129 10 0	80 0 0	19 5 10	24 8 3½	123 14 1½	–	–	–	4,032	–	30,404	13,531	–	–	1– 3½	19	–	19	–	–	0 7 $\frac{7}{19}$
Rossleagh	23 3 0	23 3 0	– – –	46 6 0	25 0 0	15 6 8	4 6 0	44 12 8	–	–	–	1,595	–	–	–	–	–	–	5	–	5	–	–	0 6¾
Total,	245 17 7½	286 17 7½	76 18 0	609 13 3	255 0 0	134 16 11½	208 7 3	598 4 2½	–	267	267	11,983	–	–	–	–	–	–	90	33	123	–	0 15 1¼	0 7 $\frac{15}{16}$
COOTEHILL UNION.																								
Cootehill Fev. Hospital	30 13 6	61 7 0	– – –	92 0 6	– – –	– – –	93 13 6½	93 13 6½	–	138	138	–	–	Same as	Dispen.	–	1–156⅓	–	4	37	41	–	0 13 7	–
Dispens'. Cootehill	68 2 0	70 4 0	– – –	138 6 0	92 6 2	46 2 4	3 1 0	141 9 6	–	–	–	2,604	–	36,167	21,550	–	–	1– 8¼	24	1	25	–	–	1 1
Drum	47 5 0	47 5 0	– – –	94 10 0	50 0 0	43 1 8	3 3 2	96 4 10	–	–	–	1,206	–	39,543	21,248	–	–	1–17$\frac{5}{8}$	37	–	37	–	–	1 7⅜
Rockcorry	43 14 0	43 14 0	– – –	87 8 0	40 0 0	41 4 10	3 3 0	84 7 10	–	–	–	2,082	–	–	–	–	–	–	24	1	25	–	–	–
Total,	189 14 6	222 10 0	– – –	412 4 6	182 6 2	130 8 10	103 0 8½	415 15 8½	–	138	138	5,892	–	–	–	–	–	–	89	39	128	–	0 13 7	1 1$\frac{5}{8}$
DONEGAL UNION.																								
Dispensaries. Donegal and Kilmard	56 18 6	56 18 6	– – –	113 17 0	75 0 0	29 2 2½	9 16 0	113 18 2½	–	–	–	1,883	3,743	–	–	–	–	–	21	4	25	–	–	1 2½
Inver and Mount Charles	42 6 0	42 6 0	– – –	84 12 0	62 0 0	11 11 9	12 7 5	85 19 2	–	–	–	1,888	9,440	–	–	–	–	–	12	5	17	–	–	0 10$\frac{15}{16}$
Templecairn	44 2 0	48 6 0	3 5 6	95 13 6	52 11 0	37 18 10½	15 17 7½	106 7 6	–	–	–	1,157	–	–	–	–	–	–	13	–	13	–	–	1 10
Total,	143 6 6	147 10 6	3 5 6	294 2 6	189 11 0	78 12 10	38 1 0½	306 4 10½	–	–	–	4,928	–	–	–	–	–	–	46	9	55	–	–	1 2$\frac{32}{55}$
DUNFANAGHY UNION.																								
Dunfanaghy Dispens'y.	47 2 6	48 13 6	23 5 3	119 1 3	59 7 8	37 7 2½	30 11 3	127 6 1½	–	–	–	903	–	128,220	15,793	–	–	1–17½	19	2	21	–	–	2 9⅗
ENNISKILLEN UNION.																								
Enniskillen Infirmary	21 0 0	883 10 9¾	21 1 9¾	925 12 7½	204 10 9½	127 8 4	699 10 7¼	1,031 9 8¾	303	–	303	–	6,143	457,538	130,997	1–432⅓	–	–	1	–	1	3 8 1	–	–
,, Fever Hos.																								
Dispensaries. Hollywell	56 6 0	56 6 0	– – –	112 12 0	80 0 0	33 6 11	5 4 0	118 10 11	–	–	–	No record.		–	–	–	–	–	18	12	30	–	–	–
Letterbreen	58 16 6	58 16 6	4 2 0	121 15 0	54 0 0	58 0 0	7 0 0	119 0 0	–	–	–	–	4,200	–	–	–	–	–	27	11	38	–	–	–
Lisbellaw	48 19 0	48 19 0	– – –	97 18 0	70 0 0	15 18 0	4 12 6	90 10 6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	28	2	30	–	–	–
Swanlinbar	50 4 0	50 4 0	– – –	100 8 0	50 0 0	57 4 3	21 12 2	128 16 5	–	–	–	–	3,296	–	–	–	–	–	38	–	38	–	–	–
Tempo	56 0 0	56 0 0	– – –	112 0 0	75 0 0	25 9 0	6 8 1	106 17 1	–	–	–	–	2,000	–	–	–	–	–	37	42	79	–	–	–
Total,																								
GLENTIES UNION.																								
Dispensaries. Ardara, Dunkeneely, & Killibegs	61 2 0	61 2 0	10 0 0	132 4 0	84 16 5½	36 3 6½	11 4 0	132 4 0	–	–	–	5,270	6,587	50,373	15,922	–	–	1– 3	18	10	28	–	–	0 6¼
Dungloe & Templecrone	71 4 0	70 3 0	1 10 0	142 17 0	100 0 0	43 16 1	10 9 1	154 5 2	–	–	–	1,736	–	52,921	8,198	–	–	1– 4¾	23	2	25	–	–	1 9$\frac{5}{12}$
Kilcar and Killibegs	38 7 0	38 7 0	– – –	76 14 0	50 0 0	18 0 6	5 0 9	73 1 3	–	–	–	2,204	3,987	34,466	8,606	–	–	1– 3⅞	12	23	35	–	–	0 8
Total,	170 13 0	169 12 0	11 10 0	351 15 0	234 16 5½	98 0 1½	26 13 10	359 10 5	–	–	–	9,210	–	137,760	32,726	–	–	1–3$\frac{3}{13}$	53	35	88	–	–	0 9$\frac{3}{5}$

Dist.	Letterkenny	91	3	0	91	3	0	–	–	–	182	6	0	103	7	6	46	13	10	11	18	8	162	0	0	–	–	–	2,503	4,530	62,026	20,126	–	–	1– 8	93	–	30	–	–	1	9	2
	Manorcunningham	45	14	6	45	14	6	–	–	–	91	9	0	55	0	0	30	1	11½	–	–	–	85	1	11½	–	–	–	3,124	3,812	15,286	5,754	–	–	1– 1⅞	24	–	24	–	–	0	6½	
	Total,	161	0	6	185	3	6	–	–	–	346	4	0	158	7	6	76	15	9½	72	19	4½	308	2	8	–	36	36	5,627	8,342	77,312	25,880	–	1–558¾	1– 4¼	–	–	–	–	1	13	11	0	10	17½
	Lisnaskea Union.																																									
	Lisnaskea Fever Hos.	371	9	6	100	0	0	–	–	–	471	9	6	30	0	0	–	–	–	313	6	2	Lately esta	blis	hed.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Dispens.	Brookborough	56	4	10	54	7	4	3	5	0	113	17	2	60	0	0	22	10	1	5	10	6	88	0	7	–	–	–	1,064	–	–	–	–	–	–	11	35	46	–	–	1	7⅞	
	Derryglin	51	6	0	51	6	0	–	10	0	103	2	0	60	0	0	33	4	10	14	8	0	107	12	10	–	–	–	–	3.500	–	–	–	–	–	14	–	14	–	–	–	–	
	Lisnaskea and Maguiresbridge	61	17	0	61	17	0	–	–	–	123	14	0	75	0	0	30	3	9	23	18	6½	129	2	3½	–	–	–	–	7,060	–	–	–	–	–	21	30	51	–	–	–	–	
	Total,	540	17	4	267	10	4	3	15	0	812	2	8	225	0	0	85	18	8	357	3	2½				–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–								
	Lowtherstown Union.																																									
Dispens.	Ballinamalard	21	8	6	21	8	6	–	–	–	42	17	0	25	0	0	18	10	0	5	17	6	49	7	6	–	–	–	–	3,459	4,650	5,221	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
	Kish	62	12	0	61	4	0	2	8	0	126	4	0	70	0	0	48	7	11	2	15	11	121	3	10	–	–	–	2,731	–	–	–	–	–	–	21	3	24	–	–	0	10⅝	
	Lowtherstown	54	16	6	54	16	6	23	14	6	133	7	6	80	0	0	48	2	9½	–	–	–	128	2	9½	–	–	–	–	4,414	–	–	–	–	–	19	30	49	–	–	–	–	
	Trillick	69	14	6	69	0	0	–	–	–	138	14	6	95	0	0	41	13	7	13	6	5	150	0	0	–	–	–	–	3,459	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
	Total,	208	11	6	206	9	0	26	2	6	441	3	0	270	0	0	156	14	3½	21	19	10	448	14	1½	–	–	–															
	Milford Union.																																									
Dispensaries.	Clondavadog	56	16	6	56	16	6	–	–	–	113	13	0	90	0	0	8	11	10	–	–	–	98	11	10	–	–	–	701	1,439	27,367	9,596	–	–	1–13¾	26	4	30	–	–	2	9¾	
	Kilmacrenan	47	14	0	47	14	0	8	10	0	103	18	0	64	0	0	40	0	0	10	0	0	114	0	0	–	–	–	1,356	2,762	35,000	10,301	–	–	1– 7⅝	13	–	13	–	–	1	8¾	
	Meevagh	35	0	0	35	0	0	–	–	–	70	0	0	56	13	0	12	0	0	1	7	0	70	0	0	–	–	–	842	–	26,026	7,048	–	–	1– 8⅜				–	–	1	8	
	Rathmelton	60	14	6	60	14	6	–	–	–	121	9	0	100	0	0	19	17	9½	2	6	2	122	3	11½	–	–	–	1,466	3,537	21,194	6,938	–	–	1– 4¾	27	–	27	–	–	1	8	
	Rathmullen	41	1	0	41	1	0	9	16	9	91	18	9	60	0	0	19	0	0	1	10	6	80	10	6	–	–	–			10,032	3,943	–	–					–	–			
	Total,	241	6	0	241	6	0	18	6	9	500	18	9	370	13	0	99	9	7½	15	3	8	485	6	3½	–	–	–			119,619	37,826	–	–									
	Stranorlar Union.																																									
Dist.	Killigordan	54	12	6	54	12	6	–	–	–	109	5	0	70	0	0	38	14	2	9	18	6	118	12	8	–	–	–	1,001	–	46,378	13,344	–	–	1–13⅓	36	1	37	–	–	2	4½	
	Stranorlar	71	3	0	71	3	0	3	3	0	145	9	0	99	0	0	42	14	5⅓	6	6	3	148	0	8½	–	–	–	1,085	2,936	56,639	10,418	–	–	1– 9½	25	–	25	–	–	2	8¾	
	Total,	125	15	6	125	15	6	3	3	0	254	14	0	169	0	0	81	8	7⅓	16	4	9	266	13	4⅓	–	–	–	2,086	–	103,017	23,762	–	–	1–11⅔	61	1	62	–	–	2	6⅝	
	Ballina Union.																																									
	Ballina Fever Hospital	37	8	6	74	17	0	3	9	11	115	15	5	80	0	0	10	0	0	71	13	0⅓	161	13	0⅓	–	138	138	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	21	2	23	–	1	3	5¼	–
Dispensaries.	Ballina	87	4	0	87	4	0	9	13	3	184	1	3	133	0	0	28	9	8	21	10	3	182	19	11	–	–	–	1,965	–	75,030	22,030	–	–	1–11¼	50	9	59	–	–	1	10⅜	
	Belmullet	71	4	0	54	11	0	7	0	3	132	15	3	100	0	0	26	11	7½	12	14	3½	139	5	11	–	–	–	1,715	–	} 250,283	22,665	–	–	} 1– 5⅞	38	–	38	–	–	1	7½	
	Binghamstown	66	4	0	66	4	0	–	–	–	132	8	0	100	0	0	37	10	0	10	10	6	148	0	6	–	–	–	2,142	–			–	–		17	60	77	–	–	1	4⅜	
	Castleconnor	41	19	0	41	19	0	–	–	–	83	18	0	70	0	0	19	14	7	8	1	1	97	15	8	–	–	–	–	2,239	29,561	8,273	–	–	–	25	3	28	–	–	–	–	
	Crosmolina	100	0	0	98	13	0	–	–	–	198	13	0	120	0	0	45	14	10	17	0	10	182	15	8	–	–	–	1,187	–	132,834	18,410	–	–	–	20	–	20	–	–	3	1	
	Killala	127	16	0	125	2	0	–	–	–	252	18	0	140	0	0	89	12	8½	26	12	0½	256	4	8½	–	–	–	2,050	11,097	91,971	24,584	–	–	1–15½	25	3	28	–	–	2	6	
	Total,	531	15	6	548	10	0	20	3	5	1,100	8	11	743	0	0	257	13	5	168	2	0½	1,168	15	4½	–	138	138	–	–	579,679	95,962	–	–	–	196	77	273	–	1	3	5¼	–
	Ballinasloe Union.																																									
	Ballinasloe Fev. Hos.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	79	79	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Dispensaries.	Ahascragh	86	8	0	86	8	0	–	–	–	172	16	0	100	0	0	54	5	11	14	18	9	169	4	8	–	–	–	2,074	–	34,215	7,976	–	–	1–3²³⁄₃₂	17	–	17	–	–	1	7⅝	
	Aughrim	57	0	0	58	1	6	–	–	–	115	1	6	80	0	0	27	0	2½	8	15	0	115	15	2½	–	–	–	1,701	–	–	–	–	–	–	29	1	30	–	–	1	4⅜	
	Ballinasloe	80	0	0	80	0	0	–	–	–	160	0	0	100	0	0	51	8	4	–	–	–	151	8	4	–	–	–	2,209	5,855	20,516	8 687	–	–	1– 4	28	6	34	–	–	1	4⅜	
	Ballygar	66	11	0	66	11	0	–	–	–	133	2	0	75	0	0	42	12	0	9	11	8	127	3	8	–	–	–	1,572	–	16,735	4,711	–	–	1– 3	26	1	27	–	–	1	7½	
	Eyrecourt	80	0	0	80	0	0	–	–	–	160	0	0	95	0	0	51	0	0	13	3	0	159	3	0	–	–	–	1.284	–	64,900	15,825	–	–	1–12¼	41	2	43	–	–	2	5⅜	
	Killane	74	16	0	74	16	0	–	–	–	149	12	0	90	0	0	44	13	0½	10	0	6½	144	13	7	–	–	–	1,509	–	48,611	11,087	–	–	1– 7⅜	18	2	20	–	–	1	11	
	Killyon	79	0	0	79	0	0	–	–	–	158	0	0	100	0	0	57	0	0	6	0	9	163	0	9	–	–	–	2,072	–	–	–	–	–	–	20	–	20	–	–	1	7⅜	
	Total,	523	15	0	524	16	6	–	–	–	1,048	11	6	640	0	0	327	19	6	62	9	8½	1,030	9	2½	–	79	79	12,421	–	–	–	–	–	–	179	12	191	–	–	1	7¹⁵⁄₁₆	

TABLE of the several Public Medical Charities existing within the limits of the undermentioned Unions in the Years 1840-41.—*continued.*

Name and Locality of Institution.	INCOME. Subscriptions.	Parliamentary and County Grants.	From other sources.	Total.	EXPENDITURE. Salaries of Medical Officers.	Cost of Medicine.	Contingencies.	Total.	Intern Patients. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Total.	Extern Patients. Dispensary.	Dispensations of Medicine.	Districts. Area.	Population.	Proportion of Patients to Population. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.	Subscribers. Of £1 1s. or more.	Under £1 1s.	Total.	Average Cost of each Patient. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.														£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.
Ballinrobe Union.																								
Dispensaries. Ballinrobe	106 6 9	106 6 9	– – –	212 13 6	136 0 0	82 2 1½	6 0 0	224 2 1½	–	–	–	–	–	24,440	13,108	–	–	–	29	24	53	–	–	–
Claremorris	60 19 6	60 19 6	4 6 0	126 5 6	66 19 6	30 0 0	29 0 0	125 19 6	–	–	–	1,301	–	43.018	16,827	–	–	1-13	36	13	49	–	–	1 11¾
Fairhill	39 6 0	39 6 0	– – –	78 12 0	30 0 0	40 17 6	7 15 0	78 12 6	–	–	–	–	2,529	59,651	8.685	–	–	–	6	–	6	–	–	–
Hollymount	100 6 0	100 6 0	– – –	200 12 0	142 17 10	40 0 0	18 19 1	201 16 11	–	–	–	1,119	4,603	32,755	13,334	–	–	1-12	22	4	26	–	–	3 7¼
Neal and Cong	29 18 0	29 18 0	– – –	59 16 0	30 0 0	25 0 0	4 0 0	59 0 0	–	–	–	1,200	–	40.308	14.463	–	–	1-12	9	–	9	–	–	0 11¾
Partry	44 4 0	44 4 0	7 12 7	96 0 7	27 5 0	13 9 11½	– – –	40 14 11½	–	–	–	–	4,933	27,622	14,025	–	–	–	6	–	6	–	–	–
Total,	381 0 3	381 0 3	11 18 7	773 19 1	433 2 4	231 9 7	65 14 1	730 6 0	–	–	–	–	–	227,794	70,342	–	–	–	108	41	149	–	–	–
Castlebar Union.																								
Mayo Infirmary	9 9 0	983 1 10	333 2 5	1,325 13 3	231 12 0	117 8 6	821 18 9½	1,170 19 3½	488	–	488	925	–	1,023,373	366,328	1-750⅝	–	–	2	–	2	2 4 1¾	–	–
Dispensaries. Balla & Ballyglass	74 16 0	74 16 0	9 7 0	158 19 0	100 0 0	27 6 9	31 2 3	158 9 0	–	–	–	–	5,236	37,154	11,888	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Castlebar	77 17 0	77 17 0	1 10 0	157 4 0	100 0 0	41 19 4½	17 6 4	159 5 8½	–	–	–	2,723	6,312	64,186	29,689	–	–	1-11	28	16	44	–	–	1 2
Islandedy	No County	Grant for this Dispensary at present.			– – –	33 8 1	14 2 10½	117 18 11½	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Turlough	59 7 0	59 7 0	– – –	118 14 0	70 8 0				–	–	–	2,032	5,879	32,120	10,471	–	–	1- 5½	36	15	51	–	–	1 1⅝
Total,	221 9 0	1,195 1 10	343 19 5	1,760 10 3	502 0 0	220 2 8½	884 10 3	1,606 12 11½	488	–	488	–	–	133,460	52,048	1-750⅝	–		–	–	–	2 4 1¾	–	–
Clifden Union.																								
Clifden Dispensary	97 17 0	97 17 0	– – –	195 14 0	125 0 0	33 11 2	37 2 10	195 14 0	–	–	–	–	3,640	191,426	28,639	–	–	–	56	4	60	–	–	–
Galway Union.																								
Galway Infirmary	3 3 0	642 12 9	1 9 0	647 4 9	129 1 10	34 15 11½	496 6 2	659 13 11½	367	–	367	498	–	1.301.236	414,684	1-1,129⅛	–		1	–	1	1 15 11½	–	–
Galway Fever Hospital	– – –	550 0 0	– – –	550 0 0	82 10 0	19 8 9	311 1 3	413 0 0	–	568	568	–	–	1,301·236	414,684	–	1-730⅓		–	–	–	–	–	–
Dispensaries. Annadown	87 18 0	87 18 0	– – –	175 16 0	80 0 0	74 19 0	25 12 6	180 11 6	–	–	–	–	5.725	–	–	–	–	–	40	–	40	–	–	–
Arran	75 0 0	75 0 0	– – –	150 0 0	100 0 0	40 0 0	– – –	140 0 0	–	–	–	–	2,018	11,287⅞	3,191	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Galway	100 11 0	50 0 0	96 13 5	247 4 5	85 0 0	67 3 0½	50 12 10	202 15 10½	–	–	–	–	–	23.000	33,120	–	–	–	73	1	74	–	–	–
Kilcorgan	71 2 0	71 2 0	– – –	142 4 0	95 2 11	41 13 5	5 7 8	142 4 0	–	–	–	1,042	3.148	36,418	11,791	–	–	1-11⅓	19	2	21	–	–	2 8¾
Outerard	65 3 0	65 3 0	– – –	130 6 0	80 0 0	30 16 1	20 14 5	131 10 6	–	–	–	3,201	4,320	138,000	12,000	–	–	1- 3¼	30	14	44	–	–	0 9¾
Total,	402 17 0	1,541 15 9	98 2 5	2,042 15 2	651 14 9	308 6 3	909 14 10	1869 15 10	367	568	935	–	–	–	–	1-1,129⅛	1-730⅓	–	–	–	–	1 15 11½	–	–
Gort Union.																								
Gort & Ardrahan Disp.	102 2 0	102 2 0	– – –	204 4 0	125 17 6	51 7 5	26 19 1	204 4 0	–	–	–	4,368	8,568	–	–	–	–	–	45	2	47	–	–	0 11¾
Loughrea Union.																								
Dispens. Athenry	50 5 0	50 5 0	5 0 0	105 10 0	50 5 0	26 18 4	23 2 8	100 6 0	–	–	–	611	–	21,205	9,049	–	–	1-14⅝	17	13	30	–	–	3 3⅜
Loughrea & Kiltulla	51 10 0	51 10 0	22 1 3	125 1 3	97 0 0	22 5 0	5 15 0	125 0 0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	15	–	15	–	–	–
Portumna	56 10 7	55 16 6	– – –	112 7 1	74 0 0	25 0 6	12 10 0	111 10 6	–	–	–	1,252	–	52,709	14,004	–	–	1-11⅛	13	–	13	–	–	1 9 1/16
Total,	158 5 7	157 11 6	27 1 3	342 18 4	221 5 0	74 3 10	41 7 8	336 16 6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	45	13	58	–	–	–

Parsonstown Union.																																			
Parsonstown Fev. Hos.	104	18	0	209	16	0	12	14	6	327	8	6	120	0	0	18	6	11	223	16	8	362	3	7	–	389	389	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	61	220	281	–	0	18	7½	–
Dispensaries. Banagher	59	7	0	59	7	0	–	–	–	118	14	0	80	0	0	33	17	7½	10	2	4	123	19	11½	–	–	–	1,118	–	33,577	12,604	–	–	1–11¼	40	–	40	–	–	2	2¾
Ferbane	59	17	0	5	17	0	–	–	–	119	14	0	75	0	0	34	0	0	3	0	0	112	0	0	–	–	–	2,300	–	76,517	18,308	–	–	1–7⅝	36	–	36	–	–	0	11⅞
Frankfort	42	15	0	42	15	0	–	–	–	85	10	0	68	15	6	28	13	8	6	11	0	104	0	2	–	–	–	2,063	–	46,906	12,697	–	–	1– 6	32	1	33	–	–	1	0½
Kinnetty	42	15	0	42	15	0	–	–	–	85	10	0	68	15	6	28	13	8	3	7	4	100	11	5	–	–	–	2,065	–	32,392	10,272	–	–	1– 5	–	–	–	–	–	0	11⅝
Lorragh	41	18	6	40	17	6	12	0	0	94	16	0	68	5	0	28	19	1	3	7	4	100	11	5	–	–	–	1,315	–	–	7,391	–	–	1– 5⅝	12	4	16	–	–	0	10 $\frac{7}{16}$
Parsonstown	28	17	0	28	17	0	–	–	–	57	14	0	43	0	0	8	1	6	6	0	0	57	1	6	–	–	–	–	3,350	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	–	–
Total,	352	12	6	456	9	6	24	14	6	833	16	6	455	0	6	184	13	9½	252	17	4	892	11	7½	–	389	389	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Swineford Union.																																									
Dispen^{s}. Foxford	92	16	0	92	16	0	–	–	–	185	12	0	94	13	1	78	17	11	12	1	0	185	12	0	–	–	–	3,610	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	0 $\frac{7}{16}$
Kiltimogh																						152	18	0	–	–	–	2,463	–	–	–	–	–	–	44	–	44	–	–	1	2⅜
Swineford	92	15	0	92	15	0	–	–	–	185	10	0	115	0	0	67	2	11	5	15	0	187	17	0	–	–	–	2,974	–	–	–	–	–	–	19	33	52	–	–	1	3 $\frac{7}{16}$
Total,																						526	7	0	–	–	–	9,047	–	–	–	–	–							1	2
Tuam Union.																																									
Dispensaries. Dunmore	122	11	0	122	11	0	–	–	–	245	2	0	162	10	0	54	0	11	35	4	3	251	15	2	–	–	–	1,662	–	25,680	7,728	–	–	1– 4⅝	37	–	37	–	–	3	0 $\frac{7}{16}$
Headford	107	4	0	107	4	0	2	10	1	216	18	1	120	0	0	72	14	10	21	16	8	214	11	6	–	–	–	6,442	–	25,081	17,752	–	–	1– 2¾	23	6	29	–	–	0	8
Miltown	65	0	0	65	0	0	4	12	6	134	12	6	90	0	0	19	2	8½	21	16	6	130	19	2½	–	–	–	1,919	–	26,933	9,257	–	–	1–4 $\frac{13}{16}$	29	3	32	–	–	1–	4⅜
Monivea	72	4	0	72	4	0	–	–	–	144	8	0	85	0	0	41	17	10	17	15	8	144	13	6	–	–	–	1,940	–	43,790	11,636	–	–	1– 6	21	–	21	–	–	1	5⅛
Tuam	179	1	6	179	1	6	9	5	0	367	8	0	160	0	0	117	16	2	64	11	9½	342	7	11½	–	–	–	7,912	–	110,090	39,450	–	–	1– 5	85	–	85	–	–	0	10⅜
Total,	546	0	6	546	0	6	16	7	7	1,108	8	7	617	10	0	305	12	5½	161	4	10½	1,084	7	4	–	–	–	19,875	–	231,574	85,823	–	–	1–4 $\frac{5}{16}$	195	9	204	–	–	1	1⅛
Westport Union.																																									
Dispensar^{s}. Achill	23	8	2	23	8	2	–	–	–	46	16	4	–	–	–	22	10	7	–	–	–	22	10	7	–	–	–	–	4,933	55,221	5,277	–	–	–	9	8	17	–	–	–	–
Louisburgh	39	6	0	39	6	0	–	–	–	78	12	0	41	10	0	42	0	4	–	–	–	83	10	4	–	–	–	1,496	–	69,328	23,607	–	–	1–15⅞	8	13	21	–	–	1	1⅜
Newport	58	12	0	58	12	0	20	11	10	137	15	10	85	0	0	27	2	0	15	6	5	127	8	5	–	–	–	7,609	–	88,553	22,383	–	–	1–2 $\frac{1}{16}$	20	–	20	–	–	0	4 $\frac{3}{32}$
Westport	75	0	0	75	0	0	9	19	0	159	19	0	103	0	0	47	14	10	18	5	3	169	0	1	–	–	–	1,450	–	77,927	26,345	–	–	1–18⅞	70	–	70	–	–	2	4
Total,	196	6	2	196	6	2	30	10	10	423	3	2	229	10	0	139	7	9	33	11	8	402	9	5	–	–	–	–	–	291,029	77,612	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Athlone Union.																																									
Dispensaries. Athlone, 1,	23	1	0	23	1	0	–	–	–	46	2	0	–	–	–	10	0	0	6	8	8	16	8	8	–	–	–	842	–	11,455	7,396	–	–	1– 8¾	12	–	12	–	–	0	4¾
Athlone, Co. Rosco^{n}	54	2	0	54	2	0	–	–	–	108	4	0	64	4	4½	31	19	0	12	0	7½	108	4	0	–	–	–	–	4,756	34,481	15,405	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Brideswell	86	2	6	86	2	6	–	–	–	172	5	0	89	19	0	65	4	8	17	1	4	172	5	0	–	–	–	–	4,276	37,780	8,216	–	–	–	48	–	48	–	–	2	7½
Glassan	43	15	0	43	15	0	–	–	–	87	10	0	60	0	0	26	13	0	16	8	3	103	1	3	–	–	–	790	–	40,626	12,000	–	–	1–15⅛	16	–	16	–	–	1	4½
Moate	34	13	0	34	13	0	10	5	0	79	11	0	60	0	0	13	9	0	10	8	2	83	17	2	–	–	–	1,218	–	32,117	12,832	–	–	1–10½	29	–	29	–	–		
Total,	241	13	6	241	13	6	10	5	0	493	12	0	274	3	4½	147	5	8	62	7	0½	483	16	1	–	–	–			156,459	55,849	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Boyle Union.																																									
Dispensar^{s}. Boyle	68	9	0	68	9	0	–	–	–	136	18	0	85	0	0	22	11	4	14	15	8½	122	7	0½	–	–	–	–	3,847	20,736	12,597	–	–	–	10	–	10	–	–		
Cootehall	33	12	0	33	12	0	0	8	0	67	12	0	46	12	0	12	7	0	7	0	0	65	19	0	–	–	–	1,568	4,704	22,654	8,930	–	–	1–5 $\frac{11}{16}$	–	–	25	–	–	0	10 $\frac{3}{32}$
Creghan	42	10	0	42	10	0	–	–	–	85	0	0	40	0	0	38	12	5	5	0	0	83	12	5	–	–	–	–	1,707	15,341	8,210	–	–	–	26	1	27	–	–		
Keadew	27	4	0	27	4	0	–	–	–	54	8	0	50	0	0	11	2	0	2	8	2	63	10	2	–	–	–	–	1,308	23,010	11,419	–	–	–	6	–	6	–	–		
Total,	171	15	0	171	15	0	0	8	0	343	18	0	221	12	0	84	12	0	29	3	10½	335	8	7½	–	–	–	–	11,566	81,741	41,156	–	–	–	–	1	68	–	–	–	–
Carrick-on-Shannon Union.																																									
Car.-on-Shan. Infirm^{y}	21	0	0	642	17	9	–	–	–	663	17	9	181	16	3	77	13	0	659	18	7	919	7	10	452	–	452	–	–	370,519	141,524	1–313⅓	–	–	1	–	1	1	2	0	–	–
Dispensar^{s}. Car.-on-Shannon	39	0	0	39	0	0	–	–	–	78	0	0	64	1	0	15	0	0	0	2	8	79	3	8	–	–	–	2,954	–	20,000	11,000	–	–	1– 3⅜	17	1	18	–	–	0	6⅜
Drumshambo	30	7	6	30	7	6	–	–	–	60	15	0	46	3	0	25	16	11	2	0	0	73	19	11	–	–	–	–	3,928	26,770	8,676	–	–	–	15	10	25	–	–		
Elphin	69	8	0	69	8	0	–	–	–	138	16	0	60	0	0	37	18	7½	43	13	5	141	12	0½	–	–	–	–	3,000	43,268	21,582	–	–	–	14	1	15	–	–		
Kiltubrid	24	14	0	24	14	0	–	–	–	49	8	0	28	0	0	16	17	11	3	10	6	48	8	5	–	–	–	1,345	6,711	–	6,508	–	–	1– 4⅝	14	–	14	–	–	0	8⅝
Total,	184	9	6	806	7	3	–	–	–	990	16	9	380	0	3	173	6	5½	709	5	2	1,262	11	10½	452	–	452	–	–	–	47,766	1–313⅓	–	–	61	12	73	1	2	0	–	–

TABLE of the several Public Medical Charities existing within the limits of the undermentioned Unions in the Years 1839-40.—*continued.*

Name and Locality of Institution.	INCOME. Subscriptions.	Parliamentary and County Grants.	From other sources.	Total.	EXPENDITURE. Salary of Medical Officers.	Medicines.	Contingencies.	Total.	Intern Patients. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Total.	Extern Patients. Dispensary.	Dispensations of Medicine.	Districts. Area.	Population.	Proportion of Patients to Population. Infirmary.	Fever Hospitals.	Dispensary.	Subscribers. Of £1 1s. or more.	Under £1 1s.	Total.	Average Cost of each Patient. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.														£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.
CASTLEREA UNION.																								
Dispensaries. Ballaghadereen	46 0 0	46 0 0	– – –	92 0 0	50 0 0	20 16 9	10 16 11	81 13 10	–	–	–	–	2,521	53,526	16,942	–	–	–	16	7	23	–	–	–
Ballyhaunis	72 15 0	72 15 0	2 10 0	148 0 0	99 0 0	40 0 0	9 0 0	148 0 0	–	–	–	1,925	–	68,474	21,260	–	–	1–11	38	–	38	–	–	1 6½
Castlerea	87 10 0	87 10 0	– – –	175 0 0	84 16 8	77 15 2	26 12 0	189 3 10	–	–	–	3,922	–	66,298	23,111	–	–	1– 5⅞	16	1	17	–	–	0 11⅝
Frenchpark	57 7 5	57 7 5	– – –	114 14 10	55 0 0				–	–	–	–	3,245	15,663		–	–	–	14	2	16	–	–	–
Glanamada	98 10 0	98 10 0	– – –	197 0 0	96 14 0	84 1 0	16 5 0	197 0 0	–	–	–	–	–	62,608	19,530	–	–	–	42	–	42	–	–	–
Loughglyn	55 13 0	55 0 0	– – –	110 13 0	70 0 0	42 9 0½	9 3 0	121 12 0½	–	–	–	–	2,998	25,046	9,230	–	–	–	12	–	12	–	–	–
Williamstown	65 9 0	65 9 0	– – –	130 18 0	68 10 0	32 1 10	20 9 0	121 0 10	–	–	–	1,027	–	20,097	7,082	–	–	nearly 1-7	27	7	34	–	–	2 4½
Total,	483 4 5	482 11 5	2 10 0	968 5 10	524 0 8				–	–	–	–	–	311,712		–	–	–	165	17	182	–	–	–
GRANARD UNION.																								
Dis'. Granard	73 7 0	50 0 0	– – –	123 7 0	50 0 0	20 0 0	17 2 6	87 2 6	–	–	–	1,501	–	43,222	20,344	–	–	1–13½	27	–	27	–	–	1 2
Street	33 11 0	33 11 0	– – –	67 2 0	52 10 0	22 0 0	8 0 0	82 10 0	–	–	–	758	–	23,577	5,941	–	–	1–12½	–	–	–	–	–	2 2½
Total,	106 18 0	83 11 0	– – –	190 9 0	102 10 0	42 0 0	25 2 6	169 12 6	–	–	–	2,259	–	66,799	26,285	–	–	1–13¼	–	–	–	–	–	1 6
LONGFORD UNION.																								
Longford Infirmary	45 3 0	786 1 10	41 10 9	872 15 7	233 10 9½	112 11 5	579 6 3	925 8 5½	286	–	286	–	–	228,358	112,558	1–393½	–	–	3	–	3	3 4 8½	–	–
Dispensaries. Ballymahon	63 0 0	50 0 0	5 12 2	118 12 2	80 0 0	30 0 0	14 0 1½	124 0 1½	–	–	–	1,710	–	39,671	22,916	–	–	1–13⅝	26	2	28	–	–	1 5½
Drumlish	Lately Established.								–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Edgeworthstown	40 10 0	40 0 0	– – –	80 10 0	68 10 0	34 9 0	5 6 11	108 5 11	–	–	–	1,742	–	31,858	14,028	–	–	1–8 1/17	–	–	–	–	–	1 3
Keenagh	55 3 0	50 0 0	– – –	105 3 0	75 5 0	23 16 6	13 6 7¾	112 8 1¾	–	–	–	–	3,776	57,846	14,428	–	–	–	23	–	23	–	–	–
Lanesborough	50 0 0	50 0 0	– – –	100 0 0	62 5 0	25 0 0	12 16 0	100 1 0	–	–	–	–	2,777	12,883	3,036	–	–	–	35	8	43	–	–	–
Tarmonbarry and Rouskey	40 17 0	41 16 0	– – –	82 13 0	46 0 0	25 7 6	11 4 11½	82 12 5½	–	–	–	1,892	–	25,264	13,166	–	–	1– 7	24	–	24	–	–	0 10½
Total,	294 13 0	1,017 17 10	47 2 11	1,359 13 9	565 10 9½	251 4 5	636 0 10½	1,452 16 1	286	–	286	–	–	167,222	67,574	1–393½	–	–				3 4 8½	–	
MANORHAMILTON UNION.																								
Manorhamilton Dispensary	67 19 7	67 19 7	3 0 0	138 19 2	110 0 0	23 13 6	14 11 2	148 4 8	–	–	–	2,663	69,29	92,995	24,309	–	–	1– 9⅛	33	–	33	–	–	1 1⅞
MOHILL UNION.																								
Dispen'. Ballinamore	48 15 0	48 15 0	6 0 0	103 10 0	62 0 0	35 10 6	11 15 0	109 5 6	–	–	–	1,967	–	43,914	20,419	–	–	1–10⅓	22	–	22	–	–	1 4½
Carrickallen	69 18 0	60 16 0	– – –	130 14 0	100 0 0	30 11 0½	7 0 0	137 11 0½	–	–	–	805	–	34,579	14,934	–	–	1–18½	38	2	40	–	–	3 5
Mohill	66 4 11	71 10 2	– – –	137 15 1	92 6 2	24 19 2	10 15 6	128 0 10	–	–	–	–	5,765	62,985	36,172	–	–	–	27	–	27	–	–	–
Total,	184 17 11	181 1 2	6 0 0	371 19 1	254 6 2	91 0 8⅓	29 10 6	374 17 4½	–	–	–	–	–	141,478	71,525	–	–	–	87	2	89	–	–	–
ROSCOMMON UNION.																								
Roscommon Infirmary	25 1 0	1,183 1 10	131 14 4½	1,339 17 2½	219 15 3	128 12 8½	932 17 7	1,281 5 6½	524	–	524	–	4,960	557,103	249,613	1–476⅓	–	–	11	–	11	2 8 1¾	–	–
Dispensaries. Athleague	50 6 0	50 6 0	– – –	100 12 0	67 0 0	28 0 0	5 12 0	100 12 0	–	–	–	–	3,022	37,272	14,483	–	–	–	16	23	39	–	–	–
Ballaghleague	65 0 0	65 0 0	– – –	130 0 0	70 0 0	35 0 0	9 0 0	114 0 0	–	–	–	–	–	29,705	10,452	–	–	–	30	–	30	–	–	–
Lecarrow	27 17 0	27 17 0	28 13 3	84 7 3	45 0 0	34 17 7	4 9 8	84 7 3	–	–	–	–	3,010	41,150	8,130	–	–	–	15	7	22	–	–	–
Roscommon	89 2 0	89 2 0	– – –	178 4 0	100 0 0	48 6 2½	20 15 10½	169 2 0½	–	–	–	–	5,129	34,795	14,990	–	–	–	56	11	67	–	–	–
Strokestown	48 6 0	– – –	40 9 6	88 15 6	50 0 0	44 8 4	1 15 10½	96 4 2½	–	–	–	–	–	Not defined.		–	–	–	13	–	13	–	–	–
Total,	305 12 0	1,415 6 10	200 17 1½	1,921 15 11½	551 15 3	319 4 10	974 10 11½	1,845 11 0½	524	–	524	–	–	–	–	1–476⅓	–	–	141	41	182	2 8 1¾	–	–

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TABLE of the several Public Medical Charities existing within the limits of the undermentioned Unions in the Years 1839-40.—*continued.*

Name and Locality of Institution.	INCOME.				EXPENDITURE.				Intern Patients.			Extern Patients.		Districts.		Proportion of Patients to Population.			Subscribers.			Average Cost of each Patient.		
	Subscriptions.	Parliamentary and County Grants.	From other sources.	Total.	Salary of Medical Officers.	Medicine.	Contingencies.	Total.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Total.	Dispensary.	Dispensations of Medicine.	Area.	Population.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.	£1 1s. or more.	Under £1 1s.	Total.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.														£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.
Gorey Union.																								
Gorey Fever Hospital	– – –	200 0 0	– – –	200 0 0	40 0 0	11 5 5	169 18 9	221 4 2	–	188	188	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 3 6½	–
Dispensar. Camolin	74 2 11	74 2 11	– – –	148 5 10	90 0 0	33 8 0	23 19 5	147 7 5	–	–	–	–	–	–	5,820	–	–	–	24	28	52	–	–	–
Dispensar. Coolgraney	65 14 0	100 0 0	– – –	165 14 0	80 0 0	32 0 0	19 8 6½	131 8 6½	–	–	–	–	4,194	–	–	–	–	–	11	10	21	–	–	–
Dispensar. Gorey	60 14 7½	67 16 7½	– – –	128 11 3	107 7 0	29 17 2½	25 6 0½	162 10 3	–	–	–	–	6,242	–	–	–	–	–	26	–	26	–	–	–
Dispensar. Killena	77 18 8	77 18 8	– – –	155 17 4	90 0 0	40 0 0	17 0 3	147 0 3	–	–	–	2,112	–	–	8,203	–	–	1-3⅓	34	49	83	–	–	1 4½
Total,	278 10 2½	519 18 2½	– –	798 8 5	407 7 0	146 10 7½	255 13 0	809 10 7½	–	188	188	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	95	87	182	–	1 3 6½	–
Newross Union.																								
Arthurstown F. Ho.	23 4 6	46 9 9	– –	69 14 3	10 0 0	5 8 2	142 16 5½	158 4 7½	–	203	203	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	10	4	14	–	0 15 7	–
Newross Fev. Hos. and Infirmary																								
Dispensaries. County Wexford. Arthurstown	33 7 0	200 0 0	629 18 11	863 5 11	30 0 0	– – –	622 18 11½	652 18 11½	–	455	455	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	11	5	16	–	1 8 8¼	–
Dispensaries. County Wexford. Fethard	50 2 0	50 2 0	– – –	100 4 0	90 0 0	19 10 6	9 12 6½	119 3 0½	–	–	–	903	–	–	9,945	–	–	1-10	20	6	26	–	–	2 7 7/10
Dispensaries. County Wexford. Newbawn	70 0 6	80 13 6	10 13 0	161 7 0	100 0 0	37 1 0	24 3 0	161 4 0	–	–	–	890	2,385	–	5,462	–	–	1-6¾	37	1	38	–	–	3 7½
Dispensaries. County Wexford. Newross	27 4 0	27 4 0	– – –	54 8 0	40 0 0	11 17 4	– – –	51 17 4	–	–	–	762	–	–	5,082	–	–	1-6¾	10	11	21	–	–	1 4½
Dispensaries. County Wexford. Templeodigan	27 4 0	27 4 0	– – –	54 8 0	40 0 0	11 17 4	– – –	51 17 4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	168	168	–	–	–
Ida Fever Hospital	31 10 0	63 12 0	– – –	115 8 0½	66 17 6	94 19 4	13 13 9½	175 10 7½	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	6	–	–	–
Dispensar. Co. Kilkenny. Glanmore	31 10 0	31 10 0	0 1 9	63 1 9	56 13 4	10 14 4½	11 3 8⅔	78 11 5	–	109	109	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	18	–	18	–	1 1 5½	–
Dispensar. Co. Kilkenny. Graguenamana	28 0 0	56 0 0	– – –	84 0 0	20 0 0	– – –	96 17 1	116 17 1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0 8½
Dispensar. Co. Kilkenny. Ida	60 5 0	60 5 0	– – –	120 10 0	80 0 0	30 13 0½	9 16 11½	120 10 0	–	–	–	3,404	–	–	10,776	–	–	1-7⅓	41	–	41	–	–	1 7
Dispensar. Co. Kilkenny. Innistiogue	62 0 0	62 0 0	– – –	124 0 0	80 0 0	20 18 8	8 10 0	109 8 8	–	–	–	1,330	–	–	15,743	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	56 16 0	56 16 0	– – –	113 12 0	100 0 0	16 18 7⅓	4 18 3	121 16 10⅓	–	–	–	–	8,493	–	3,221	–	–	–	18	19	37	–	–	–
	67 0 0	67 0 0	– – –	134 0 0	100 0 0	31 9 11	2 14 0	134 3 11	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 4 2½	–
Total,	561 5 0½	801 12 3	640 13 8	2,003 10 11½	773 10 10	279 10 11½	947 4 9	2,000 6 6½	–	767	767	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Rathdrum Union.																								
Wicklow Infirmary	2 2 0	712 3 4	– – –	714 5 4	112 3 4	83 5 11	375 16 11	573 6 2	303	–	303	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1	1 17 10	–	–
Wicklow Fev. Hos. Arklow	– – –	166 13 4	– – –	166 13 4	32 6 0	– – –	158 10 10	190 16 10	–	236	236	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0 16 2	–
Wicklow Fev. Hos. N.T. Mt. Kennedy	– – –	166 13 4	– – –	166 13 4				154 3 5½	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Wicklow Fev. Hos. Wicklow	126 4 1	166 13 4	– – –	292 17 5	50 0 0	– – –	275 19 11	325 19 11	–	376	376	–	6,213	33,143	14,723	–	–	1-3½	22	–	22	–	0 17 4	–
Dispensaries. Arklow	90 6 0	82 15 0	1 10 0	174 11 0	80 13 10	38 10 3	61 4 11½	180 9 0½	–	–	–	2,724	–	–	8,829	–	–	1-2	18	–	18	–	–	0 8½
Dispensaries. Aughrim	45 7 6	45 7 6	– – –	90 15 0	60 10 0	25 3 8	15 19 4	101 13 0	–	–	–	1,841	–	–	3,751	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1 0½
Dispensaries. Calary	45 15 0	45 15 0	– – –	91 10 0	50 0 0	30 10 0	17 0 0	97 10 0	–	–	–	–	–	25,630	12,201	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Dispensaries. N.T. Mt. Kennedy	79 17 6	79 17 6	– – –	159 15 0				137 12 11½	–	–	–	–	5,047	33,509	14,711	–	–	1-5 1/10	7	2	9	–	–	1 4⅝
Dispensaries. Rathdrum	81 6 1	81 6 1	– – –	162 12 2	92 6 2	26 11 4	48 10 1	167 7 7	–	–	–	2,238	4,572	–	12,474	–	–	–	68	12	80	–	–	–
Dispensaries. Redcross	79 15 0	79 15 0	0 10 0	160 0 0	110 10 0	32 9 5	11 19 9½	154 19 2½																
Total	550 13 2	1,626 19 5	2 0 0	2,179 12 7					303	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Shillelagh Union.																								
Dispensar. Carnew	59 3 9	68 1 0	– – –	127 4 9	84 15 9	28 14 2½	8 15 5	122 5 4½	–	–	–	1,985	–	–	10,141	–	–	–	21	8	29	–	–	1 2⅜
Dispensar. Hacketstown	42 11 0	42 11 0	– – –	85 2 0	60 0 0	13 12 9	8 17 0	82 9 9	–	–	–	1,970	2,055	–	7,515	–	–	–	32	3	35	–	–	0 10 1/10
Dispensar. Shillelagh	52 5 0	53 8 6	1 3 6	106 17 0	70 0 0	28 9 6	13 7 1½	111 16 7½	–	–	–	1,601	3,133	–	6,935	–	–	–	13	27	40	–	–	1 4⅓
Dispensar. Tinnahely	58 11 2	58 11 2	– – –	117 2 4	75 0 0	16 7 3	19 15 1	111 2 4	–	–	–	1,409	–	–	–	–	–	–	7	7	14	–	–	1 5⅜
Total,	212 10 11	222 11 8	1 3 6	436 6 1	289 15 9	87 3 8½	50 14 7½	427 14 1	–	–	–	6,965	–	–	–	–	–	–	73	45	118	–	–	1 2⅜

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TABLE of the several Public Medical Charities existing within the limits of the undermentioned Unions in the Years 1839-40.—*continued.*

Name and Locality of Institution.	INCOME.				EXPENDITURE.				Intern Patients.			Extern Patients.		Districts.		Proportion of Patients to Population.			Subscribers.			Average Cost of each Patient.		
	Subscriptions.	Parliamentary and County Grants.	From other sources.	Total.	Salary of Medical Officers.	Medicine.	Contingencies.	Total.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Total.	Dispensary.	Dispensations of Medicine.	Area.	Population.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.	£1 1s. or more.	Under £1 1s.	Total.	Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.														£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.
KILMALLOCK UNION.																								
Charleville Fever Hos.	120 0 0	240 0 0	– – –	360 0 0	114 6 8	51 4 7	303 2 3	468 13 6	–	550	550	–	–			–		–	156	–	156			
Kilfinnan ditto.	78 0 9	156 1 6	– – –	234 2 3		3 19 3½		242 13 7	–	217	217	–	–			–								
Dispensaries. Ballylanders	76 13 0	76 13 0	– – –	153 6 0	108 0 0	42 16 0	– – –	150 16 0	–	–	–	–	5,543		9,356	–	–	–	38	5	43	–	–	–
Bruff	59 13 0	59 13 0	2 2 0	121 8 0	75 0 0	42 11 10½	11 18 11	129 10 9½	–	–	–	2,621	–		9,506	–	–	1–3⅝	21	–	21	–	–	0 11⅝
Bruree	71 19 6	71 19 6	– – –	143 19 0	100 0 0	35 0 8	2 2 0	137 2 8½	–	–	–	–	2,926		7,050	–	–		56	–	56	–	–	–
Charleville	64 12 0	64 12 0	– – –	129 4 0	Expenditure is given with the Fever Hosp. No separate Account kept										7,560				Same as			F. H.		
Galbally	70 0 0	70 0 0	7 0 2	147 0 2	113 0 0	24 0 2	10 0 0	147 0 2	–	–	–	5,160	6,410		13,574	–	–	1–2⅝	34	2	36	–	–	0 6⅞
Kilfinnan	112 1 6	112 1 6	– – –	224 3 0	140 0 0	54 8 10	31 15 6	226 4 4	–	–	–	–	7,870	–	–	–	–					–	–	–
Kilmallock	49 5 0	49 5 0	3 15 0	102 5 0	75 0 0	23 5 3½	8 0 0	106 5 3½	–	–	–	1,440	2,099		10,686	–	–	1–7⅜	45	–	45	–	–	1 5¾
Knockaney	40 0 0	40 0 0	9 0 0	89 0 0	60 0 0	32 0 0	2 0 0	94 0 0	–	–	–	2,520	–	–	–				11	–	11	–	–	0 9
Total,	742 4 9	940 5 6	21 17 2	1,704 7 5		309 6 8		1,702 6 4	–	767	767					–	–							
KILRUSH UNION.																								
Kilrush Fever Hospital	400 0 0	933 0 0	– – –	1,333 0 0	Hospital being built.				–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–				–	–	–
Dispensaries. Carrickaholt and Kilkee	52 6 0	52 6 0	– – –	104 12 0	60 0 0	43 16 11	6 1 6	109 18 5	–	–	–	–	4,036		17,730	–	–	–	28	2	30	–	–	–
Cooreaclare and Kilmichael	50 8 0	50 8 0	– – –	100 16 0	60 0 0	30 17 11½	4 14 10½	95 12 10	–	–	–	–	2,400		7,635	–	–	–	36	–	36	–	–	–
Doonbeg	34 17 0	34 17 0	– – –	69 14 0	50 0 0	12 6 0	5 0 0	67 6 0	–	–	–	–	–		5,629	–	–	–	22	2	24	–	–	–
Kildysart	39 13 0	39 13 0	– – –	79 6 0	60 0 0	17 0 0	5 0 0	82 0 0	–	–	–	1,121	–		5,457	–	–	1–47	22	–	22	–	–	1 5⅝
Kilrush	42 18 6	42 18 6	3 10 6	89 7 6	52 14 8½	28 0 2½	8 14 6	89 9 5	–	–	–	–	4,000		11,243	–	–	–	18	–	18	–	–	–
Knock	49 3 0	49 3 0	4 11 0	102 17 0	60 0 0	25 0 0	5 0 0	90 0 0	–	–	–	–	4,174		10,706	–	–	–	22	1	23	–	–	–
Total,	669 5 6	1,202 5 6	8 1 6	1,879 12 6	342 14 8½	157 1 1	34 10 10½	534 6 8	–	–	–	–	–									–	–	–
LISTOWEL UNION.																								
Listowel Fever Hosp.	138 11 9	527 3 6	– – –	665 15 3	Not opened.				–	–	–	–	–			–	–	–				–	–	–
Dispensaries. Ardfert	84 10 0	64 10 0	– – –	149 0 0	60 0 0	78 10 8	0 12 6	139 3 2	–	–	–	–	–	–	6,668	–	–	–	33	1	34	–	–	–
Ballylongford	30 15 0	30 15 0	6 14 6	68 4 6	40 0 0	20 18 10	7 3 6	68 2 4	–	–	–	963	–		6,668	–	–	1–7	17	–	17	–	–	1 5
Clanmorris and Drumkeene	33 17 0	33 17 0	0 18 6	68 12 6	60 0 0	14 8 10½	1 10 0	75 18 10½	–	–	–	3,010	–		11,857	–	–	1–3 5/16	13	–	13	–	–	0 6 1/16
Doagh	39 14 0	39 14 0	– – –	79 8 0	– – –	31 4 0	3 10 0	34 14 0	–	–	–	2,001			3,723	–	–	1–1⅞				–	–	0 4½
Gunsborough	48 18 6	48 18 6	– – –	97 17 0	76 0 0	27 11 8	16 2 8	119 13 8	–	–	–	1,093	2,943		8,077	–	–	1–7⅜	26	4	30	–	–	2 2¼
Kilflin	68 9 0	68 9 0	– – –	136 18 0	76 0 0	47 14 10½	10 0 0	133 14 10½	–	–	–				6,443	–	–		45	20	65	–	–	–
Listowel	92 14 0	92 14 0	18 3 9	203 11 9	135 0 0	47 19 6	20 14 1	203 13 7	–	–	–	2,315	–		8,469	–	–	1–3 3/32				–	–	1 9½
Newtown Sands	55 17 0	55 17 0	– – –	111 14 0	80 0 0				–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	38	2	40	–	–	–
Tarbert	34 18 0	34 18 0	– – –	69 16 0	40 0 0	26 8 6	5 0 0	71 8 6	–	–	–	628	–		4,371	–	–	1 7	2	19	21	–	–	2 3¼
Total,	628 4 3	996 16 0	25 16 9	1,650 17 0	567 0 0				–	–	–					–						–	–	–
TRALEE UNION.																								
Tralee Infirmary	– – –	863 1 10	9 4 7	872 6 5	184 1 10	50 7 4½	653 0 7⅔	887 9 10¼	306	–	306	–	2,675	1,068,480	263,126	1–859⅝	–	–				2 18 0	–	–
Tralee Fever Hospital	– – –	550 0 0	– – –	550 0 0	101 0 0	13 0 1½	377 7 0½	491 7 1⅜	–	728	728	–	–	1,068,480	263,126	–	1–361⅔	–				–	0 13 6	–
Dispensaries. Annascall	33 17 0	37 0 0	3 3 0	74 0 0	63 0 0	9 5 0	2 15 0	75 0 0	–	–	–	–	4,500		6,282	–	–	–	15	1	16	–	–	–
Castlegregory	177 0 0	150 0 0	– – –	327 0 0		36 0 0			–	–	–	–	1,260		7,852	–	–	–				–	–	–
Castle-Island	68 12 7	68 12 7	6 10 0	143 15 2	100 0 0	32 14 5½	7 13 2½	140 7 8	–	–	–	–	4,360		22,493	–	–	–	18	2	20	–	–	–
Dingle	139 10 0	133 10 0	– – –	273 0 0	170 0 0	35 15 0	17 5 7	223 0 7	–	–	–	–	10,835		19,976	–	–	–	47	14	61	–	–	–
Total,	418 19 7	1,802 4 5	18 17 7	2,240 1 7					306	728	1,034	–	23,630		56,603	1–859⅝	1–361⅔	–				2 18 0	0 13 6	–

Bandon Union.																																		
Bandon Fever Hospital	83	2	10	130	0	0	0	15	10¼	213	18	8⅓	–	–	–	6	12	5	202	13	9½	209	6	2½	–	267	267	–	–	–	–	–	–	23	34	57	–	0	15	8½	–		
Disp'sar's { Bandon	87	9	0	85	0	0	–	–	–	172	9	0	110	0	0	56	4	11	22	16	6	189	1	5	–	–	–	3,423	–	–	15,680	–	–	1–4 1⁹⁄₁₆	53	1	54	–	–	–	1	1¼
Clonakilty	50	0	0	50	0	0	–	–	–	100	0	0	70	0	0	25	2	3	4	17	9	100	0	0	–	–	–	4,607	–	–	12,000	–	–	1–2⅝				–	–	–	0	5¼
Innishannon	66	6	6	66	6	6	–	–	–	132	13	0	51	13	11	16	2	5½	65	14	5½	133	10	10	–	–	–	1,550	–	–	10,336	–	–	1–6 1⁹⁄₁₆	43	2	45	–	–	–	1	9½
Timoleague	60	14	0	60	14	0	7	14	11½	129	2	11½	90	0	0	23	1	1	6	9	7	119	10	8	–	–	–	3,018	–	–	–	–	–	–	26	32	58	–	–	–	0	9½
Total,	347	12	4	392	0	6	8	10	10	748	3	8	321	13	11	127	3	1½	302	12	1	751	9	1½	–	267	267	12,598	–	–	–	–	–	–				–	0	15	8½	0	10⅝
Bantry Union.																																		
Disp' { Bantry	63	18	6	63	18	6	–	–	–	127	17	0	67	8	5	52	13	3	17	15	4	137	17	0	–	–	–	3,075	–	–	26,958	–	–	1–8¾	32	4	36	–	–	–	0	10¾
Castletown	71	18	0	61	4	0	6	6	11½	139	8	11½	105	16	1	21	11	6½	12	1	4	139	8	11½	–	–	–	3,540	–	–	23,382	–	–	1–6 3⁹⁄₁₆	37	–	37	–	–	–	0	9½
Total,	135	16	6	125	2	6	6	6	11½	267	5	11½	173	4	6	74	4	9½	29	16	8	277	5	11½	–	–	–	6,615	–	–	50,340	–	–	1–7 1⁷⁄₁₆	69	4	73	–	–	–	0	10 1⁄₁₆
Caherciveen Union.																																		
Caherciveen Fev. Hos.	82	14	6	165	9	0	6	0	6	254	4	0	20	0	0	11	2	0	182	17	0½	213	19	0½	–	533	533	–	–	–	25,144	–	1–47⅛	–	27	–	27	–	0	8	0¼	–	
Disp' { Caherciveen	67	4	0	67	4	0	–	–	–	134	8	0	100	0	0	35	2	0	–	–	–	135	2	0	–	–	–	–	–	–	13,104	–	–	–	25	–	25	–	–	–	–	–	
Valencia	54	6	6	54	6	6	3	0	1	111	13	1	80	0	0	20	12	6	–	14	0	101	6	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,614	–	–	–	10	1	11	–	–	–	–	–	
Total,	204	5	0	286	19	6	9	0	7	500	5	1	200	0	0	66	16	6	183	11	0½	450	7	6½	–	533	533	–	–	–	15,718	–	1–47⅛	–	62	1	63	–	0	8	0¼	–	
Dunmanway Union.																																		
Disp' { Ballyneen	61	5	0	61	5	0	4	19	0	127	9	0	100	5	0	28	19	10	5	5	0	134	9	10	–	–	–	5,569	–	–	16,787	–	–	1–3 1⁄₁₀	28	–	28	–	–		0	5 5⁄₁₆	
Dunmanway	53	17	0	53	17	0	12	5	0	119	19	0	96	0	0	31	17	4½	19	10	0	147	7	4½	–	–	–	5,102	–	–	22,303	–	–	1–4⅜	37	–	37	–	–		0	6 1⁄₁₆	
Total,	115	2	0	115	2	0	17	4	0	247	8	0	196	5	0	60	17	2½	24	15	0	281	17	2½	–	–	–	10,671	–	–	38,090	–	–	1–3⅝	65	–	65	–	–		0	6 1⁄₁₆	
Fermoy Union.																																		
F. Hos. { Fermoy	64	3	8	128	7	4	–	–	–	192	11	0	75	5	0	16	10	0	142	14	9	234	9	9	–					–			–				–				–	
Mitchelstown	76	5	0	152	10	0	0	18	0	229	13	0	40	0	0	11	0	0	178	19	2	229	19	2	–					–			–	15	–	15	–				–	
Rathcormuck	70	4	0	140	8	0	1	1	0	211	13	0	86	5	2½	–	–	–	103	11	0	189	16	2½	–	221	221			–			–				–	0	17	2¼	–	
Disp'sar'ies. { Ballyhooley	No Return.																								–	–	–			–			–				–				–	
Castletown-roach	54	4	0	54	4	0	–	–	–	108	8	0	84	16	3½	24	11	8½	–	–	–	109	8	0	–	–	–	6,856	–	–	17,263	–	–	1–5½	35	2	37	–	–		0	9¾	
Conna	58	4	0	58	12	0	10	0	4	126	16	4	101	14	2⅗	21	2	0	4	0	1½	126	16	4	–	–	–	3,130	4,891	–	4,000	–	–	1–2½	17	11	28	–	–		0	6½	
Fermoy	49	16	7	49	16	7	–	–	–	99	13	2	70	0	0	25	0	0	6	1	7½	101	1	7½	–	–	–	2,608	–	–	10,149	–	–		6	–	6	–	–		0	7¼	
Glanworth	34	14	0	34	14	0	–	–	–	69	8	0	50	0	0	19	10	1	9	2	6	78	12	7	–	–	–	3,721	–	–		–	–		16	11	27	–	–		0	8 1⁄₁₆	
Kildorrery	58	18	6	58	18	6	3	1	6	117	18	6	100	0	0	32	8	6	3	9	9	135	18	3½	–	–	–	2,742	4,649	–		–	–		29	–	29	–	–		1	1	
Kilworth	73	11	0	70	8	0	–	–	–	143	19	0	82	0	0	27	18	1⅓	38	16	0½	148	14	2	–	–	–			–			–				–	22	3	25	–	–				
Mitchelstown	38	16	0	38	5	0	8	0	0	85	1	0	75	0	0	18	10	10	4	1	9	97	12	7	–	–	–	3,000	–	–	12,573	–	–	1–4 3⁄₁₆	27	5	32	–	–		0	5⅝	
Rathcormuck	35	7	0	35	7	0	–	–	–	70	14	0	33	14	0	26	15	5	10	4	7	70	14	0	–	–	–																
Watergrass-hill and Glenville	70	0	0	70	0	0	–	–	–	140	0	0	90	0	0	30	0	0	20	0	0	140	0	0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	50	10	60	–	–		–		
Total,																														–		–	–									
Kanturk Union.																																		
Newmarket Fev. Hosp.	62	5	7½	124	11	3	–	–	–	186	16	10½	125	0	0	–	–	–	53	14	5½	178	14	5½	–	192	192	–	–	–								–	0	18	7½	–	
Disp'sar'ies. { Freemount	80	0	0	60	0	0	–	–	–	140	0	0	105	0	0	21	6	9	16	3	11	142	10	8	–	–	–	–	5,040	–	14,702	–	–	–	55	–	55	–	–		–	–	
Kanturk	40	0	7	40	0	7	–	–	–	80	1	2	60	0	0	20	2	11½	8	12	0	88	14	11½	–	–	–	2,470	–	–		–	–					–	–		0	8½	
Millstreet	55	3	0	55	3	0	3	14	0	114	0	0	81	0	0	28	0	0	5	0	0	114	0	0	–	–	–	1,362	–	–	13,789	–	–	1–10 1⁄₁₂	43	–	43	–	–		1	8⅓	
Millstreet & Cullen	55	12	0	No County Grant yet received.						–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–			–				–				–				–	
Newmarket	12	15	0	12	15	0	–	–	–	25	10	0	–	–	–	16	8	3	2	7	8½	18	15	11½	–	–	–			–	9,000	–	–					–			–		
Boherbue	51	5	0	51	5	0	–	–	–	102	10	0	75	0	0	20	15	0	6	15	0	102	10	0	–	–	–	1,905	–	–	13,033	–	–	1–6 7⁄₈	29	4	33	–	–		1	1	
Total,	357	1	2½	343	14	10	3	14	0	648	18	0½	446	0	0	106	12	11½	92	13	1	645	6	0½	–	192	192			–	–	–	–							0	18	7½	–	

TABLE of the several Public Medical Charities existing within the limits of the undermentioned Unions in the Years 1839-40.—*continued.*

	Name and Locality of Institution.	INCOME. Subscriptions.	Parliamentary and County Grants.	From other sources.	Total.	EXPENDITURE. Salary of Medical Officers.	Medicine.	Contingencies.	Total.	Intern Patients. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Total.	Extern Patients. Dispensary.	Dispensations of Medicine.	Districts. Area.	Population.	Proportion of Patients to Population. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.	Subscribers. Of £1 1s. or more.	Under £1 1s.	Total.	Average Cost of each Patient. Infirmary.	Fever Hospital.	Dispensary.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.														£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.
	KENMARE UNION.																								
Dispensaries.	Ardea and Dowrass	66 1 6	66 1 6	— — —	132 3 0	95 16 0	23 16 0	12 11 0	132 3 0	—	—	—	1,271		40,000	6,208	—	—	1–4⅞	35	12	47	—	—	2 1
	Cove, West	152 2 6	152 2 6	— — —	304 5 0	237 9 7	41 15 5	30 0 0	309 5 0	—	—	—	—	7,000	—	13,790	—	—	—			123	—	—	—
	Kenmare	59 9 0	59 9 0	— — —	118 18 0	95 0 0	19 0 6	5 0 0	119 0 6	—	—	—	—	1,500	—	6,120	—	—	—	39	—	39	—	—	—
	Kilgarvan	45 9 0	45 9 0	— — —	90 18 0	60 0 0	7 3 4	7 2 5	74 5 9	—	—	—	366	—	43,090	3,436	—	—	1–9½	21	16	37	—	—	4 0¾
	Sneem	36 14 0	36 14 0	— — —	73 8 0	58 8 0	15 0 0	— — —	73 8 0	—	—	—	367	777	—	4,520	—	—	1–12¼	13	16	29	—	—	4 0
	Templenoe	29 3 0	29 3 0	— — —	58 6 0	50 12 0	25 0 0	3 19 0	79 11 0	—	—	—	1,321	—	—	5,462	—	—	1–4⅛	9	9	18	—	—	1 2¼
	Total,	388 19 0	388 19 0		777 18 0	597 5 7	131 15 3	58 12 5	787 13 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	39,536	—	—	—			293	—	—	—
	KILLARNEY UNION.																								
	Killarney Infirmary, Fever Hospital, and Dispensary	245 17 2½	245 17 2½	109 11 4½	601 5 9½	175 0 0	44 14 11	284 18 11	504 13 10	121	529	650	—	5,951	—	42,958		—	—	13	1	14	0 15 6⅜	0 15 6⅜	—
Dispensaries.	Cloghereen	53 10 0	30 0 0	— — —	83 10 0	63 10 0	20 0 0	— — —	83 10 0	—	—	—	2.294	2,994	—	4,165	—	—	1–1⅓	15	19	34	—	—	0 8¾
	Dunkerin	68 13 0	68 13 0	— — —	137 6 0	60 0 0							1,705	—	—	6,574	—	—	1–3⅜				—	—	—
	Knockacoppal	42 10 0	42 10 0	— — —	85 0 0	50 0 0	29 18 7½	10 0 0	89 18 7½	—	—	—	—	3,239	—	7,941	—	—	—	25	15	40	—	—	—
	Miltown	31 17 1	31 17 1	1 1 6	64 15 8	35 0 0	16 17 0	16 6 8	68 3 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	16,734	—	—	—	12	—	12	—	—	—
	Molahiff	48 0 0	— — —	— — —	48 0 0	20 15 0	27 0 0	0 5 0	48 0 0	—	—	—	2,420	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	—	46	—	—	0 4¾
	Total,	490 7 3½	418 17 3½	110 12 10½	1,019 17 5½	404 5 0				121	529	650	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				0 15 6⅜	0 15 6⅜	—
	KINSALE UNION.																								
	Kinsale Fever Hospital	55 12 6	111 5 0	3 4 2	170 1 8	42 0 0	10 1 8	131 10 5¾	183 12 1¾	—	184	184	—	—	—					48	9	57	—	0 19 11½	—
Dispensaries.	Ballinahassig	59 1 6	59 1 6	— — —	118 3 0	90 0 0	27 10 4	4 0 0	121 10 4	—	—	—	2,052	3,152	—	3,622	—	—	1–1⅜	41	—	41	—	—	1 2¼
	Ballinspittle	54 6 0	54 6 0	5 4 0	113 16 0	75 0 0	24 10 4	11 15 3	111 5 7	—	—	—	1,479	—	—	11,821	—	—	1–8	32	—	32	—	—	1 7
	Carrickaline	56 19 6	56 19 6	5 9 6	119 8 6	85 5 0	25 19 4	12 0 6	123 4 10	—	—	—	2,563	—	—	7,585	—	—	1–3	36	1	37	—	—	0 11½
	Dundurrow	40 6 0	40 6 0	— — —	80 12 0	52 10 0	17 11 2½	4 0 0	74 1 2½	—	—	—	1,285	1,819	—	4.370	—	—	1–3⅜	22	24	46	—	—	1 1¾
	Kinsale and Infirm.	48 4 5	48 4 5	2 8 6	98 17 4	18 0 0	50 5 8½	53 6 10	121 12 6½	54	—	54	2,624	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	61	95	—	—	—
	Oyster-Haven	60 6 0	60 6 0	11 12 7	132 4 7	102 18 4	10 6 7	9 1 8	122 6 7	—	—	—	2,547	—	—	15.592	—	—	1–6⅛	50	8	58	—	—	0 11½
	Total,	374 15 11	430 8 5	27 18 9	833 3 1	465 13 4	166 5 2	225 14 8¾	857 13 2¾	54	184	234	12,550	—	—	—	—	—	—	263	103	366	—	0 19 11½	—
	MACROOM UNION.																								
Dispensaries.	Ahabullock	No Return.								—	—	—	—										—	—	—
	Donoughmore	50 5 6	50 5 6	4 6 3	104 17 3	75 0 0	19 4 8	8 11 1	102 15 9	—	—	—	2,262	4,213	—	6,794	—	—	1–3	26	23	49	—	—	0 10⅓
	Macroom	115 2 7	117 16 7	19 5 0	252 4 2	150 0 0	62 18 6	41 17 10½	254 16 4½	—	—	—	—	—	—	28,590	—	—					—	—	—
	Magourney	51 2 6	51 2 6	— — —	102 5 0	75 0 0	24 10 1	4 11 5	104 1 6	—	—	—	2,275	—	—	5,892	—	—	1–2½	34	22	56	—	—	0 11
	Total,													—	—		—	—					—	—	—

	MALLOW UNION.																																			
	Mallow Infirmary	84	11	0	409	1	10½	6	0	0	499	12	10½	139	1	10½	75	18	10	337	5	9½	552	6	6	307	–	307	6,061	–	1,701,585	703,716	1-2,292¼	–	–	28	–	28	1	15	11⅜	–	–	–
	Buttevant Fever Hosp.	43	15	0	86	10	0	–	–	–	130	5	0	120	0	0	15	14	10	74	7	8½	210	2	6½	–	207	207	–	–				–	–	28	–	28	–	–	–	1	0	3⅜	–	–
	Mallow ditto	115	0	0	230	0	0	9	7	9	354	7	9	60	0	0	26	19	8	227	3	8½	314	3	4½	–	334	334	–	–				–	–	33	69	102	–	–	–	0	18	9¾	–	–
Dispensaries.	Ballyclough	51	17	2	51	17	2	–	–	–	103	14	4	71	11	0	23	15	3	8	8	1	103	14	4	–	–	–	2,038	–				–	–	17	2	19	–	–	–				1	0	⅜
	Buttevant	26	5	0	32	5	0	6	0	0	64	10	0	Applied to the Fever Hospital Funds.											–	–	–	3,496	–				–	–	25	–	25	–	–	–						
	Churchtown	69	9	0	69	9	0	–	–	–	138	18	0	120	0	0	18	18	0	–	–	–	138	18	0	–	–	–	1,944	–		5,033	–	–	1-2⅝	54	–	54	–	–	–	1	5	⅛
	Doneraile	45	3	0	45	3	0	–	–	–	90	6	0	50	0	0	25	18	11½	8	1	5	84	0	4½	–	–	–	–	–		11,529	–	–		21	–	21	–	–	–				
	Glountaine	63	10	0	63	10	6	–	–	–	127	0	6	100	0	0	17	10	0	7	0	0	124	10	0	–	–	–	–	–	16,787	8,057	–	–		52	11	63	–	–	–				
	Total,	499	10	2	987	16	6½	21	7	9	1,508	14	5½	660	12	10½	204	15	6½	662	6	8½	1,527	15	1½	307	541	848	–	–			1-2,292¼			258	81	339	1	15	11¾	0	19	4½		
	MIDLETON UNION.																																			
F. Hos.	Castlemartyr	42	0	5½	82	0	0	–	–	–	124	0	5½												–	205	205					–		–	18	3	21							
	Midleton	59	4	0	118	8	0	6	15	5½	184	7	5½	53	6	8	10	0	0	120	10	8½	183	17	4½	9	265	274					–		–	19	–	19	0	13	5	0	13	5	–	
	Youghal	No Return.																																										
Dispensaries.	Ahada	66	13	0	66	12	0	1	1	2	134	6	2	100	0	0	31	4	7	9	17	10½	141	2	5½	–	–	–	1,722	2,068		14,421	–	–	1-8⅝	15	–	15	–	–	–	1	7	1⅛
	Castlemartyr	24	12	0	24	12	0	–	–	–	49	4	0	30	0	0	7	19	8	14	17	4	52	17	0	–	–	–	2,228			9,477	–	–	1-4¼	13	–	13	–	–	–	0	5	3⅛
	Cloyne	56	5	0	56	5	0	–	–	–	112	10	0	80	0	0	22	10	0	10	0	0	112	10	0	–	–	–	2,553			9,095	–	–	1-3⅝	21	20	41	–	–	–	0	10	9⅛
	Kilcredan	50	0	0	50	10	0	–	–	–	100	10	0	84	0	0	14	0	0	2	10	0	100	10	0	–	–	–	1,354			5,670	–	–	1-4½	26	1	27	–	–	–	1	5	3⅛
	Killeagh	66	4	0	65	3	0	0	5	0	131	12	0	106	0	0	19	10	5	2	8	2	141	10	5	–	–	–	727			10,451	–	–	1-14⅜	20	–	20	–	–	–	3	10	¾
	Midleton	29	12	0	29	12	0	6	15	5½	65	19	5½	26	13	4	20	0	0	19	6	1½	65	19	5½	–	–	–	826				–	–		16	4	20	–	–	–	1	7	1⅞
	Youghal	No Return.																																										
																									–	–	–			9,000	11,327	–	–											
	Total,																																						0	13	5			–	
	SKIBBEREEN UNION.																																			
Dispensaries.	Baltimore	42	0	0	42	0	0	–	–	–	84	0	0	65	0	0	14	0	0	5	0	0	84	0	0	–	–	–	1,956	–	–	6,479	–	–	1-3 1/16	21	–	21	–	–	–	0	10	5/8
	Castletownsend	43	0	0	43	0	0	–	–	–	86	0	0	70	0	0	19	0	0	4	0	0	93	0	0	–	–	–	3,462	–	–	5,619	–	–	1-1⅝	28	–	28	–	–	–	0	6	¼
	Glandore	57	14	0	57	14	0	0	15	0	116	3	0	80	0	0	32	14	2	9	11	9	122	5	11	–	–	–	2,161	–	–	8,720	–	–	1-4	38	2	40	–	–	–	1	1	3/16
	Rosscarberry	63	12	0	50	0	0	11	14	3	125	6	3	82	10	0	26	13	2	9	15	4½	118	18	6½	–	–	–	3,889	7,182	–	13,958	–	–	1-3 3/32	24	4	28	–	–	–	0	7	5/16
	Skibbereen	60	15	6	60	15	6	25	4	4	146	15	4	90	0	0	30	9	2½	23	19	5	144	8	7½	–	–	–	4,606	–	–	21,588	–	–	1-4 1/16	41	8	49	–	–	–	0	7	5/16
	Skull	63	2	0	63	2	0	5	3	0	131	7	0	96	0	0	24	2	11½	13	11	10	133	14	9½	–	–	–	–	–	–	19,990	–	–	–	44	2	46	–	–	–				
	Total,	330	3	6	316	11	6	42	16	7	689	11	7	483	10	0	146	19	6	65	18	4½	696	7	10½	–	–	–	–	–	–	76,354	–	–	–	196	16	212	–	–	–				

STATEMENT of the TOTAL ANNUAL AMOUNT of the SALARIES of MEDICAL OFFICERS, the COST of MEDICINES, and the TOTAL EXPENDITURE, of Dispensaries, Fever Hospitals, and Infirmaries, respectively, supported partly or entirely by County Presentments in Ireland; and of the TOTAL ANNUAL AMOUNT of such Salaries, Cost of Medicines, and Total Expenditure of all those Institutions in the aggregate.*

DISPENSARIES.				FEVER HOSPITALS.				INFIRMARIES.				TOTAL OF DISPENSARIES, FEVER HOSPITALS, AND INFIRMARIES.			
Number of.	Total Amount of Salaries of Medical Officers.	Total Cost of Medicines.	Total Expenditure.	Number of.	Total Amount of Salaries of Medical Officers.	Total Cost of Medicines.	Total Expenditure.	Number of.	Total Amount of Salaries of Medical Officers.	Total Cost of Medicines.	Total Expenditure.	Number of.	Total Amount of Salaries of Medical Officers.	Total Cost of Medicines.	Total Expenditure.
626†	44,768 7 4¾	18,517 16 7¼	73,100 11 7¼‡	88	6,316 11 4	1,552 17 1½	27,038 13 3½	41	6,999 0 9	3,785 1 2	45,006 9 0½	755	58,083 19 5¾	23,865 14 11¾	145,144 16 11

* The Institutions which are partly or entirely supported in Dublin by Parliamentary Grants, and which receive no County Presentments, and which are given in page 78, (Appendix B, No. 10,) are not included in this Table. The amount of salaries of Medical Officers for these in a year is £1,753 11*s.* 7*d.*; Cost of Medicines, £2,151 12*s.* 1*d.*; and the Total Expenditure, £38,835 14*s.* 9*d.*

† This number includes the Ennis and the Dublin Western Lying-in Hospitals.

‡ The Expenditure of some Fever Hospitals, which are connected with Dispensaries, is included in this Total; and the Returns for five Dispensaries, and for four Fever Hospitals, have not been obtained.

APPENDIX (E.)

COPIES OF LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS, RELATIVE TO THE FOREGOING REPORTS.

LONDONDERRY UNION.

Londonderry, 20th September, 1841.

Appendix (E.)
Letters received by the Commissioners.

Gentlemen,—In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 9th of July, the Board of Guardians of the Londonderry Union desire to offer the following observations on the "Remedial Measures" suggested in your Report on Medical Charities.

With respect to County Hospitals or Infirmaries, we cannot assent to the reasoning by which the continuation of them on their present footing is justified; the County Grants were formerly merely subsidiary to the Subscriptions, and we conceive that recent enactments have permitted the Counties to raise larger sums only that these Institutions might be continued in force until the Poor Law came to relieve them of their patients.

It must also be observed that the Grants are not compulsory, and it is not to be expected that those residing at a distance from the County Hospital will continue willingly to pay towards the support of an Institution from which they can derive so little benefit, particularly when by means of "beds for casualty cases," attached to local Fever Hospitals, as proposed in the Report, they find themselves in addition compelled to support their own sick or maimed poor.

If the argument derived from their possessing large County Grants, irrespective of Subscriptions, be considered of force, why are not *County Fever Hospitals* also to be continued? The same argument should have equal force in these two cases nearly similar.

It is an error to state that any "County Authorities" have more control over County Hospitals than over Dispensaries or Fever Hospitals. They are by Law, Corporations, regulated by their Governors, Subscribers to a certain amount. There are no County Authorities who have, "*ex officio*," any right to control their proceedings. Grand Juries and County Charity Boards may visit them, as they can Dispensaries or Fever Hospitals, and may withhold the Public Grants from either. They may be, and in some cases are, (Lisburn for example,) situated at a distance from the Town where the Grand Jury meet; and the returns given in the Report prove that they are in effect District Institutions, supported by County Grants, as above three-fourths of the patients come from within ten miles of the Hospital.

If these Institutions were continued in their present state, the effect on this Union would be, that the sick and maimed poor of that part of it in the County Derry would be provided for in an excellent Institution at the cost of the County of Londonderry, while those from that part of it in the County Donegal, would be taken to the County Hospital at Lifford, an average distance of 15 miles; as the form of the Donegal portion of this Union is such, that it would be impracticable to find a place for a local Hospital which would not be nearly as distant from the extremities as an Hospital in the Workhouse.

We beg further to urge that it is not possible for the Poor Law Commissioners to exercise such a control as would remedy abuses, and secure good management in them, unless they have a most expensive staff to inspect them.

We would therefore suggest that County Hospitals or Infirmaries should no longer be supported by the Counties, and that patients admitted to the houses at present occupied as such, should be provided for by a Rate to be levied off each Union or Hospital District.

Considering that the Subscription System is defective in not affording adequate assistance in Districts in which the Land Owners may be poor, inattentive, or absentee, and that it presses unequally on the liberal Occupiers, we approve of the discontinuance of Subscriptions for Dispensaries, and that the necessary funds should be raised as a part of the Poor Rate.

But it will be necessary to consider whether it would not be levying too large a proportion from the Clergymen, to charge them with the deduction of full rate from their tithe rent charge, which has now become to all intents a rent, and we humbly conceive that in the levy of the Poor Rate no distinction should be made between it and any other rent.

The propositions that Medical Districts should be defined, that the Guardians and Managing Committee should be joined in the local administration, and that the necessary funds should be raised as a general charge upon the whole of the Electoral Divisions contained in such Medical District, appear to the Board to be judicious.

We consider that in like manner it would be advisable that the Districts for Fever Hospitals should consist of a certain extent of Electoral Divisions in the same or adjoining Unions; but not necessarily composed of Dispensary Districts, and that the expense should be a general charge over the whole District. That the arrangement for the advance of funds under the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 116, sec. 84, ought to be continued—(the repayments to be made from the Poor Rate)—and that the local management and the appointment of Officers should be in the Joint Committee; and that the formation of any such District, and the establishment of a few casualty beds in the Fever Hospitals, should be contingent upon the decision of the Guardians of the District proposed to be included.

We consider that a general controlling authority, supported by Medical inspection, will be necessary to assist the local Committee in procuring a proper outlay of the funds, and due attention to the wants of the Poor.

In conclusion we have further to suggest, that as such important amendments in the Law are proposed, and as the funds for Vaccination are provided for by the Dispensary Grants from the County, we propose to postpone any further proceeding in reference to it, as it would not be advisable to have two sets of Medical Officers, one for the Dispensaries, and another for Vaccination, and as the Commissioners propose to pay "due regard to the interests of the present Medical Attendants," it is to be feared that the Unions might have two sets of Doctors to provide for.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your very obedient humble servant,

Samuel Kennedy,

Clerk to the Board of Guardians.

CASTLEDERG UNION.

Castlederg Workhouse, 16th October, 1841.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to transmit for your information the following copy by order of the Board of Guardians of the Castlederg Union, in answer to your letter of the 9th of July, 1841.

In answer to the letter of the Poor Law Commissioners of the 9th of July last. we beg to offer the following observations on the Remedial Measures recommended in your Report on Medical Charities.

We do not concur in the reasons by which the continuation of the County Hospitals or Infirmaries, on their present footing is recommended; the Presentments from the Counties were formerly subsidiary to the Subscriptions, and limited to small sums, and if recent enactments authorised the Counties to extend their Grants, it appears to us that this was only to enable them to continue the support of the inmates till the relief under the Poor Law was in force.

These Presentments are not compulsory, nor is it proposed to make them so, and if by means of extra beds for casualty cases, joined to local Fever Hospitals, as proposed in the Report, (the Hospitals belonging to the Workhouses,) the more distant parts of the County support their own sick or maimed poor, it is not reasonable nor is it to be expected, that these Districts should continue to pay towards an Institution from which they are to derive no benefit.

If there be weight given to the argument that there is an advantage in their possessing large County Grants irrespective of Subscriptions, County Fever Hospitals should be continued on the same grounds. What exact meaning it is intended to convey by the words "County Authorities," we do not know, but there are no County Officers, who, by virtue of their offices, have any greater control over the Infirmaries, than over Dispensaries or Fever Hospitals; in fact they have less, as the Governors, Subscribers to a certain amount, form a Corporation regulated by their own bye-laws. Grand Juries and County Charities' Boards, nominated by them, may withhold the County Grants, or may examine into the proceedings of the Infirmaries, as they do and are bound to do in respect of Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals, and the returns given in the Medical Charities' Report, prove that they are Institutions, supported by County Grants, for the benefit of the Districts immediately around them, as above three-fourths of the patients come from within ten miles of the Hospital. In the report of Mr. Phelan on this Union, it is stated that very few of the Fever cases are removed to the Omagh Fever Hospital, in fact none are relieved there, and very few in the County Hospital, and as the Workhouse is situated within 13 miles of Omagh, the effect of the carrying out of the recommendations of the Report, would be that all Fever cases must be taken to Omagh, though the distance from which they principally come is 16 to 22 miles distant from that Town. The Hospital at the Workhouse is too small to admit of any Fever cases being received.

If it were possible for the Poor Law Commissioners to administer the powers given them by the Irish Poor Relief Act, over these Institutions, it could only be done by means of a large and expensive set of Medical Assistants, and then Dispensaries and Fever Hospitals might be left under their charge on their present footing.

We would therefore earnestly press that County Hospitals or Infirmaries, should no longer be supported by the County Cess, but that patients admitted to the houses already occupied as such, should be provided for out of the Poor Rate, levied equally off the District attached to the Hospital. Considering that the Subscription System is deficient in not affording adequate assistance in Districts in which the Land Owners may be poor, inattentive, or absentee, and that it presses with double severity on the liberal Occupiers, we approve of this discontinuance of Subscriptions for Dispensaries or Fever Hospitals, and that the funds necessary for their support be raised as a part of the Poor Rate, equably over the Dispensary or Fever Hospital Districts.

The propositions that Medical Districts should be defined, that the Guardians and Managing Committee should be joined in the local administration and appointment of officers, that the advance of funds as under the 6th and 7th of William IV., c. 116, sec. 84, be continued, (the repayments to be made from the Poor Rate,) and that the formation of any such District, and the establishment of beds for casualty cases, in the Fever Hospitals, should be contingent upon the decision of the Guardians of the Union, appear to be judicious.

Without giving any opinion as to the exact powers to be reposed in a Central Board, we consider that the returns prove that a general controlling authority supported by Medical inspection, is necessary to assist the local Committees in procuring a proper outlay of the funds, and due attention to the wants of the poor, but we think that there should not be power to appoint more than two Inspectors, and that one probably would be found sufficient in a short time, and it is possible that the Inspectors General of Prisons might be able to do the duty if they were Medical men.

By order of the Board, DAVID JOHNSTON,
Clerk to Guardians.

Abbeyleix, December 9th, 1841.

SIR,—At the request of Lord de Vesci, I take the liberty of stating to you my opinion of the Bill in contemplation on the Medical Charities of Ireland.

I have been for upwards of 20 years Medical Officer of this Dispensary, and have given considerable attention to our Medical Charities, and I have observed that owing to their present legislative enactments, they have not operated as generally beneficial to the Sick Poor as they ought to do.

In the year 1824, previous to Dr. Phelan's work on the Medical Charities of Ireland, I addressed a circular to various members of the House, detailing some of their evils and suggesting measures to remedy them. The greatest evil, I consider, is making any of the Medical Charities dependent either for the amount of their income or even their existence, on Subscriptions, and likewise there being no fixed boundary to a Dispensary District, so that oftentimes the most populous and poorest parts of Ireland are unprovided with any kind of Medical Relief for their Sick Poor, merely because the Proprietors of the soil did not please to subscribe to a Dispensary, while those very poor who were denied any Medical aid, were contributing themselves in the shape of County Assessment to the Dispensaries of the County.

The proposed Bill remedies all these evils, and as such, has my most hearty concurrence. Still I think I would not altogether prohibit Subscriptions, and I would be inclined to make Subscribers to a certain amount, members of the Committee of Governors, in conjunction with the ex-officio and elected

Appendix (E.)

Letters received by the Commissioners.

Guardians, Rate-payers, &c. I think such a measure would make the proposed Bill popular with the proprietors and gentry, and counterbalance the influence that the proposed Bill may otherwise give to any particular party.

In the 18th preamble of the Bill, 20 miles is made the minimum of distance to County Infirmaries, at which casualty or surgical beds can be allowed in any Fever Hospital; the limit in my opinion is too great; half the distance would be a long journey to remove a compound fracture or other serious injury. I think it would be preferable not to specify any distance, for many large and populous Towns would require immediate surgical accommodation, such as Clonmel, where the County Infirmary is at Cashel, and many others. I would therefore take the liberty of suggesting, that the deciding on such Fever Hospitals as may have casualty beds, should (without any reference as to distance,) be left to the Medical Board, the local Governors and Medical Inspectors to report on.

I think that both the Public in general, the Sick Poor, and the Profession, would feel the benefit of having Hospital accommodation for contagious and non-contagious disease as general as it could be, compatible with the expenditure. The Sick Poor would feel the benefit of having Medical and Hospital relief near their homes; the resident gentry and middle classes would likewise feel the benefit of having professional men practising amongst them, more experienced as they would be more accustomed to Hospital practice. The Profession would, I am sure, receive it as a great boon, as it would at once place them on an equality, and give them the same opportunities of treating and witnessing disease in all its stages, as the more favoured Surgeons of County Infirmaries.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your very obedient servant,

William Boxwill.

To George Nicholls, Esq., *Poor Law Commissioner.*

The following note was written with the view of collecting the opinions of the Medical Attendants of Fever Hospitals and Dispensaries respecting the Suggestions contained in the Commissioners' Report of the 5th of May. Many communications of a nature similar to the following have been received in reply, and the writers having given permission, it is deemed advisable to insert these, to show the views which the writers entertain on the subject.

PRIVATE.

5, William's Park, Rathmines.

Dear Sir,—If, on examining the Medical Charities' Report, you will be so good as to favor me with your opinion of the merits or demerits of the Suggestions given by the Poor Law Commissioners for an improved system of Dispensary and Fever Hospital Relief, and for extending Infirmary Relief,—stating in what you agree or in what you differ with the Report, you will greatly oblige me.

Be so good as to consider this as a mere personal request, and that

I am, yours very truly,

D. Phelan,

Assistant Poor Law Commissioner.

COPIES of LETTERS addressed to Denis Phelan, Esq., Assistant Poor Law Commissioner, in reply to the above, with permission to be published.

Leixlip, 10th January, 1842.

Letters received by Denis Phelan, Esq., Assistant Commissioner.

Sir,—Having carefully read the Report on the Medical Charities, I am clearly of opinion that you have not only completely succeeded in exposing all the defects and abuses of the old system, but you have suggested a new plan of Remedial Measures which must be approved of by all those who are at all interested on the subject. I have been managing Dispensaries for the last thirty years, and from sad experience can bear ample testimony to almost all the grievances you mention. Having been obliged often to sacrifice both time and money, and resort to all those practices you allude to in trying to keep these Institutions afloat, I highly approve of substituting Poor Rates instead of private Subscriptions and County Presentments, as a more certain way of raising funds and at the same time relieving the Occupier, and causing absentees and other proprietors to come forward. I also think the proposed division of Unions into Dispensary Districts most desirable, particularly as I am situated on the borders of three Counties, which precludes me from affording relief to my nearest poor neighbour, unless of my own free will. I cannot even admit him into the Fever Hospital, being in Kildare, although residing quite close to me in the Counties of Meath or Dublin. A few casualty beds would answer well here, being nearly twenty miles from the Kildare Infirmary. Your alterations and improvements appear to me so judicious, that I could have nothing more to suggest, as I hope soon to be under the control of a proper Medical Board.

I remain, Sir, yours most faithfully,

W. Ferguson, M.D.,

Physician to the Celbridge Fever Hospital Dispensary.

Edenderry, 7th December, 1841.

Sir,—In reply to your letter received yesterday, asking my opinion of the Recommendations and Suggestions offered in "the Report of the Medical Charities of Ireland," I beg leave to say that I concur very much with the views of the Commissioners; in those particularly where they recommend that the funds of Dispensaries, generally, should be raised as a portion of the Poor Rate, and not as at present, by an unequal and capricious Subscription. I would approve, likewise, of the government of the Medical Charities being in the hands of a Board, to ensure a supply of properly qualified Medical Officers; and nothing can be better than the suggestion for establishing Local Hospitals on a small scale, wherever required. Such is the impression left on my mind by the "Report of the Medical Charities," and I wish it may soon be carried into effect.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

W. H. Astle, M.B.,

Edenderry Dispensary.

Edenderry, 8th January, 1842.

SIR,—I am in receipt of your favor of the 7th instant, enclosing a former letter of mine to you, which contains a record of my humble opinion respecting the value and importance of several of the Suggestions in the "Medical Charities' Report." On re-perusing my former letter, I am quite satisfied that my opinion continues unchanged, regarding the merits of the "Report," and my experience since that time, (December 7th,) has only confirmed me in thinking it is high time for the Dispensaries to be supported by some other means than by those heretofore employed; a method that throws the support of them on the benevolent and voluntary subscriber, who is not always best able to bear the burden. I despair of seeing properly qualified Medical Officers over these Institutions, uniformly, till presided over by a governing Central Board.

I am quite ready to bear my humble testimony in any way you may think proper to use it, and am

Sir, yours faithfully.

WILL. H. ASTLE, M.B., T.C.D.
Medical Superintendent of the Edenderry Dispensary.

Moville, 9th December, 1841.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, and in reply have to acquaint you that I perused your able "Report" on the Medical Charities in Ireland, with great attention, and so far as I see at present, I cannot but approve of your valuable Suggestions for an improved Dispensary and Fever Hospital Relief, and likewise for extending Infirmary Relief. In proof of the advantages which would accrue from the latter to persons in remote Districts, I have to state that there is at present under my care here, a poor widow woman, who, a few days ago, was unfortunate enough to receive a bad compound fracture of the leg; this case of course would necessarily have required the comforts, as well as the advantages of an Infirmary, but notwithstanding I have permission to send her to our County Institution, still, the distance is so considerable, and her general health so delicate, that I consider her removal, at this inclement season, would be attended with great risk. Under these unfavourable circumstances, I have been obliged to procure lodgings for her as near to my residence as I could manage to obtain them, and to make such further arrangement for her support during her protracted confinement, as the serious nature of the casualty requires.

In conclusion, allow me to assure you, that in any contemplated change, which it may be recommended to the Legislature to make, having for its object the improvement of the Medical Charities, I place full reliance on your support and advocacy in upholding the just claims, independence, and respectability of the body of which I have the honor of being a member.

I am, Sir, your obedient humble servant,

JOHN IRVINE, Surgeon, R.N.,
M.R.C.S., London, and Medical Superintendent of Upper and Lower Moville Dispensary.

Strabane, 14th December, 1841.

SIR,—I approve of the Suggestions given by the Poor Law Commissioners for an improved system of Dispensary and Fever Hospital Relief, and am satisfied that a yearly or half-yearly inspection of the Medical Charities, also a Board of Control of five or seven of the most influential and scientific of our Profession, with a power vested in them to alter or amend the laws, as they in their wisdom would deem expedient, would be highly advantageous. I am also of opinion that we should have a compulsory tax, as these Institutions are supported solely by the humane and charitable, whilst numbers of the very wealthy do not contribute one shilling, and in too many cases Medical men are obliged to solicit Subscriptions. It is to be hoped that in forming a Bill for the better regulation of the Medical Charities, a due regard be paid to the interests of the poor, and the present Medical Attendants.

I am, very truly yours,

ALEXANDER LENEY,
Medical Officer of the Strabane Dispensary.

Portadown, 17th December, 1841.

SIR,—In reply to your favor, in offering some remarks on the management of Dispensaries, I beg to say that I am anticipated in your Report, as to the chief objections I might be disposed to make. That an important revision of the present system is required, I am satisfied is quite evident. In the first place, the inadequacy of the funds of such Institutions has hitherto curtailed the limits to which they should have extended, and the likelihood of any further diminution of their operations is a matter to be deprecated. I speak from experience, for in this immediate District several Subscribers have withdrawn their support, on the plea of their heavy charge of Poor Rates.

If I mistake not, from a revision of the Tables attached to your Report, the necessity of an alteration in the system will appear quite obvious. What I specially allude to is the vast difference in the average cost of each Dispensary Patient. When the public perceive that in some Districts it is more than 5*s*., while in others it is less than 7*d*., a revision of the system will be called for.

I have already stated that your Report has anticipated objections, and by a reference to paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 11, and 33, in the Report, some of the greatest evils which have appeared to me, are alluded to.—As to the Midwifery cases, it is difficult to form a just opinion. With the animus of your Report on that subject I entirely concur; at the same time, if some check were not given to recommendations for such cases, the time of the Medical Officer would be nearly altogether occupied in this department, so as to injure both the Institution and his own practice.

That you may perceive, so far as I am personally identified with the working of Dispensaries in this locality, I beg to submit for your inspection the "Seagoe Report." You will there see that the number of Patients is increased sixfold, and yet the Treasurer has this day informed me that the Subscriptions are decreased by 40 per cent. This fact fully bears me out in what I have already stated concerning the growing disinclination to support such Institutions by voluntary Contributions, and the feeling that they should be supported from the Poor Rate assessment.

I am, &c., &c.,

L. A. STURGEON,
Medical Superintendent of the Portadown Dispensary.

Appendix (E.)

Letters received by the Commissioners.

Dunnemanagh, 20th December, 1841.

Sir,—I have read the principal part of the Report on the Medical Charities, and am glad to find the Suggestions for the improvements so much in accordance with my own preconceived opinion.

The County Infirmaries are useless to the remote parts of the Counties, upon which they are a heavy burden, and should, I think, be applied to the use of the Union in which they are situated, and charged upon it for support. In each Union there should be an Hospital of sufficient extent to receive the Fever Patients, and such other Surgical or Medical cases, as could not be properly treated at a Dispensary, and attached to it there should be a covered cart with springs to convey the Patients in, the funds for its support being supplied from the Poor Law Tax of the whole Union.

The Dispensaries for the use of extern Patients will still be required within the present Districts, or a new distribution of them be made, and I am of opinion that the funds for their support should be raised off the Parish or Electoral Divisions, the poor of which they are intended to relieve, and a number of the highest Rate-payers associated with the elected Guardians as a Committee of Management.

If the Legislature adopt a reform of this kind, the Medical Charities will be much more efficient, and I should think not more expensive than they now are.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Wm. Baird,

Medical Superintendent of the Dunnemanagh Dispensary.

Lifford, 21st December, 1841.

Sir,—In reply to your note, I beg to say that I have carefully read the Report of the Poor Law Commissioners on the Medical Charities, and cannot but highly approve of the Suggestions contained therein, with respect to an improved system of Dispensary and Fever Hospital Relief.

The yearly or half-yearly inspection by Medical men of character, I think very necessary, and also the suggestion of a compulsory tax, instead of the voluntary system at present in existence.

Hoping that in whatever change may be made, regard will be had to the interests of the present Medical Attendants.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

Wm. John Green,

Medical Superintendent of the Clonleigh (Lifford) Dispensary.

Barrington's Hospital, Limerick, 26th December, 1841.

Sir,—In accordance with your wishes, I beg leave to offer my humble opinion on the Suggestions for the better regulating Medical Charities, contained in the Report. From my experience of ten years in this Hospital, I am perfectly convinced of the futility of depending on voluntary Subscriptions for its support; and in considering the subject generally, I am free to acknowledge that unless such Institutions be taken immediately under the charge of the Government itself, (of which there is no prospect,) I confess I see no more just and equable manner of raising a fund to sustain them efficiently, than that of the "Rate" suggested by the Commissioners, and it appears to me that among local Governors of the different classes of Public Charities, as well as among the Medical Profession, the feeling on this subject is nearly in unanimous accordance with the aforesaid Suggestions.

The establishment of a "Medical Charities' Board," would, I have no doubt, contribute very materially to the better management of those Institutions, and enable the Governors of them to extend their benefits to a much larger amount of sick poor than can be done at present. One uniform system of discipline and details, applicable to each particular class of the Public Charities, would, in my mind, be a most desirable object, and I conceive that such could only be properly arranged and made available by a Board of Medical Men of standing and experience in their several departments.

On the subject of "Inspection" I entirely concur in the Suggestions contained in the "Report." There could be no more salutary measure for keeping the machinery of the Charitable Institutions in perfect order,—no management, however excellent, but may in course of time require alteration and improvement; and so far as I can see, I know no other way in which it can be effected properly, except by the measure of Inspection.

On the whole, I look upon the "Report" and the Suggestions contained therein, as worthy the immediate attention of the Government, and as it is admitted on all sides that the support hitherto afforded the Medical Charities has been fluctuating and inefficient, I think every philanthropic mind should hail with pleasure the suggestions of such measures as will improve and render permanently efficacious, Establishments so much required for the relief and treatment of the sick poor of this country.

I remain, Sir, with great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

John Allen,

Resident Medical Officer.

Rathcoole.

Sir,—On receiving your letter I again looked over the Report, and think that the proposed measures would be of infinite service; as you ask me my opinion of the several clauses I beg leave to call your attention to one or two trifling remarks. Page 16, Section 4.—Most of the Curates who have naturally a good opportunity of knowing the wants and distresses of the poor, would be excluded as it now stands, many of them at least not possessing rateable property. If all Parochial Clergy were admissible, I think it would be a better arrangement. Same page, Section 5.—I think it would afford more satisfaction if power of selecting Rate-payers, to form part of the local committee, were given to the Rate-payers of the Dispensary District, rather than to the Board of Guardians.

Every person in charge of a Dispensary District must be aware of the awful consequences arising from a want of having Hospital relief within reach of persons afflicted with Fever. Any arrangement to ensure a safe and speedy removal to Hospital would be a great blessing; I think that along with your plan of having a sufficient number of Hospitals, the arrangement you casually mention of giving the right of visiting and joining in consultation at the Hospital to the Medical Attendant of the Dispensary District from whence a Patient is removed, would be a most important matter, as by giving

confidence to the Poor they would allow their friends to be removed in time, thereby checking the spread of contagion and increasing the chance of recovery. All the Subscribers to this Dispensary to whom I submitted the Report, approve of the proposed arrangements.

I remain yours very truly, M. J. O'Kelly.

Carrick-on-Suir, January, 1842.

Sir,—Having carefully read over your Report, the remedial measures therein suggested are in my opinion unobjectionable.

All my life opposed to the principle of making the Sick Poor depend on the voluntary contributions and caprice of individuals, I stated this at the Cork meeting in 1837, as you well know, for the reasons set forth in the Petition adopted at that very influential and respectable meeting.

Our Hospital is never out of debt or difficulties, notwithstanding the economy with which it is managed, and the charitable and benevolent disposition of the good people amongst whom it has been my good fortune to be located. Our funds are never sufficient to meet the pressing demands of the Sick Poor. As this town is on the borders of the Counties of Tipperary, Kilkenny, and Waterford, and is so remote from the Infirmaries of the two former Counties, and from the Waterford Leper Hospital, that Patients are never sent from hence to either, we may be strictly said to have no Infirmary relief. We are not permitted to receive any Surgical or Medical case that does not come within the meaning of the Act, unless some benevolent individual undertakes to pay the expenses; this is sometimes paid and sometimes *not*. In the latter case I am driven to the necessity of either placing the Patient on the Funds of the Institution, or paying for him out of my own pocket, or else to send him out upon the world, which no man possessing a human heart could do. I am obliged to make, or assist in making, the annual collection, which *is very objectionable* for many reasons. Many subscribe in compliment to myself, others will not subscribe although able, and some do not contribute in proportion to their means; and yet their poor tenantry and labourers receive the benefit of our Institutions, as well as those of the good people who pay cheerfully and generously.

I have lately canvassed the opinions of many of the most respectable portion of our Subscribers as to whether they will continue to support the Hospital and Dispensary when the Poor Rate is levied, and I have been invariably answered in the negative. Even some very respectable and large contributors have served me with a notice that they will not subscribe after this year. If they persevere in this intention, our Hospital must close next year, unless there is an assessment of some kind to support it.

I approve highly of a Medical Charities' Bill, but it should contain a clause for assessment, and also a clause for the protection of the present Medical Officers of those Institutions; I think it utopian, indeed, now, to expect that any Government would grant, or any Rate-payers submit to a second Commission for the raising of funds to support those Institutions.

The Medical Charities' Board should have nothing whatever to do with the appointment of Medical Officers. Such a power might lead to corruption, but it would certainly excite such suspicion as would greatly diminish the confidence of the Public and the Profession in the Board, whose far more useful functions will be to examine and approve of qualifications, to fix on a reasonable amount of salaries, to prepare scientific reports from the returns supplied by the Medical Inspectors, and by the Medical Attendants of the different Institutions, to frame judicious rules and regulations, &c.

I highly approve of the appointment of Medical Inspectors, being satisfied that they will be very useful to the Profession, the Institutions, and the Public.

Having long known Dr. Corr and yourself, I have full confidence that, in any suggestions you and he offer to the Commissioners, or to any other authority, you will keep in view the interests of the Medical Profession, as far as the same can be done consistently with those of the Sick Poor and the Public—objects which I believe to be quite compatible.

I remain, yours faithfully, J. F. Purcell,

L.R.C.S., Ireland, and M.D.—Medical Superintendent of the Carrick-on-Suir Fever Hospital and Dispensary.

Castleconnor, 10th January, 1842.

Gentlemen,—I have received your second letter enclosing my answer to your first. Nothing more occurs to me that I would suggest in addition to what I have already stated. I still consider (although have read of many objections made to some of your statements in the "Report,") that it reflects the highest credit on those Gentlemen who have been engaged in compiling it; it appears to me to present a correct state of the Medical Charities to the Public. I consider that the efficiency of Dispensaries is very much injured—1st. by the want of sufficient funds and the uncertainty in procuring them, 2ndly. by the want of a few Wards attached to the Dispensary, wherein to place such cases as could not safely be conveyed to the County Infirmary; these cases are numerous in some Districts. It is preposterous to suppose that *one* Hospital is sufficient for an entire County. In the metropolis, if a man receives an injury, he has, at furthest, only a few streets between him and *several* Hospitals, each of these attended daily not by one, but by several Medical Gentlemen. You have shown clearly the urgent demand for Fever Hospitals; what a number of the working class might be saved yearly from destitution, if these were either more general or more efficient. The public are however beginning to feel the great necessity there is for them.

One other subject remains upon which the opinion of each Medical Practitioner ought to be of consequence, and respecting which their *true interests* ought to be consulted by the authorities, viz.—"a judicious superintendence." The necessity for it is felt in many places; but the question remains "into *whose hands* is this to be placed?" It is an important trust, and I have no hesitation in saying that it *should not* be placed in the hands of *non-medical* persons, but *Medical Men* of professional rank and character, to direct and superintend the interests of *Medical Men*; they only can do it with satisfaction to the Profession and the Public. As I address myself to two Gentlemen of the Profession, and so very capable of undertaking the important point at issue, I need add nothing further as this letter contains the substance of my last and is at your service.

I am, Gentlemen, with great respect your most obedient servant,

Charles E. Ross,

Medical Superintendent of the Castleconnor Dispensary and Fever Hospital.

To D. Phelan and M. Corr, Esqrs.

Appendix (E.)

Letters received by the Commissioners.

Templemore, 14th January, 1842.

Sir,—Having carefully read the Report of the Poor Law Commissioners on the Medical Charities of Ireland, I can bear testimony to its entire correctness. I can do so the more readily as having attended a Dispensary in the capacity of Physician and Surgeon for six years, and accordingly had ample opportunities of seeing the working of the present system of those Institutions. First, with regard to Dispensaries, I think with many others who are now and had been in charge of such Institutions, that no system could be worse than the present, both for the Sick Poor and the Medical Attendant. In the first place, it is very difficult to procure funds for the support of those Institutions, even without the burden of a Poor Rate, and where the funds are procured they are often diverted to other purposes, with no real regard to the interests of the Poor.

In fact, the many evils attending the present system have been placed before the Public so clearly and distinctly by the Report recently published by the Commissioners, that to say more on the subject would be only a repetition of that Report, and it has astonished me much how they could have obtained such accurate information.

With regard to Fever Hospitals I can say, that when in charge of a Dispensary, I endeavoured to get one attached to it, and that three individuals offered to give sixty pounds for its erection, and the landlord as much ground as would be required. The District sadly wanted such an Institution, and wants it still. Such Charities would be far more useful if under judicious control, but they are not, and the Subscribers take no further notice of them than to pay their subscriptions. I have often sent poor Patients a distance of from twelve to twenty miles to the Infirmaries of Kilkenny and Tipperary, and got a subscription to pay for their conveyance, but they have been repeatedly sent back, various reasons being assigned for their non-admission. If the proposed Bill be passed into law it will, I think, do away with the many evils of the present system. I gave expression to those opinions at a Medical Meeting held in Dublin in 1838, being then in charge of a Dispensary, and I have since seen no reason to alter them.

I remain, &c.,

P. Ryan,
M.D. of Edinburgh.

Maynooth, 16th January, 1842.

Sir,—I have attentively read the Report of the Poor Law Commissioners on the Medical Charities of Ireland, and would have long since expressed my own full and decided approbation of the proposed remedial measures, &c., for the better regulation thereof, only I waited to learn the opinion of the most intelligent persons in this District on the subject, including the Clergy of all persuasions.

This delay now enables me to state, that all agree in the necessity of some amendment, and consider the proposed plan as being well calculated to remedy the objectionable part of the present system.

As a Medical Man, anxious to uphold the respectability of the Profession, I most cordially approve of a plan, which, whilst it relieves the Medical Officers of some Institutions from the humiliation of personally soliciting and collecting subscriptions, must, by enabling them to devote more time to the discharge of their Professional duties, and by circumscribing these duties within reasonable bounds, by more generally establishing such Institutions throughout the Kingdom, and by placing them all under strict Medical inspection, necessarily secure to their fullest extent, all the advantages which they are capable of affording to the Sick Poor.

I remain with much respect and esteem, Sir, your obedient servant,

Edward T. O'Kelly,
Medical Superintendent of the Maynooth Dispensary.

Newtownlimavady, 28th December, 1841.

Sir,—I have read with care the Report on Medical Charities, and am fully convinced that the plan proposed would work well. In my opinion some such regulations as are there recommended are indispensably necessary to the removal of the many and glaring evils of the present system, and to the accomplishment of all the good which Institutions of the kind are capable of affording.

I have been upwards of twenty years in Dispensary practice, and could if necessary add to the large catalogue of heavy objections to the present system; but I think enough has been shown to satisfy the Government that a radical change is imperatively called for. Allow me to say that any scheme which does not provide for the establishment of District or Union Fever Hospitals will fall very short indeed of effecting all the beneficial purposes which might be attained. In fact, I conceive a Fever Hospital to a Dispensary, is as the right arm to the body. Some may object to Union Hospitals on the ground of expense, but if the objector could calculate the number of families who are reduced to pauperism by this plague of our country, he would, I doubt not, change his mind. Sometimes whole families are struck down through contagion, at other times the disease spreads so slowly through a family, that the healthy are kept attending the sick for months together, being thus prevented from earning a support, and are reduced to beggary. In this case their only retreat is the Poor-house, and a heavy additional charge is thereby entailed on the community. I will venture to affirm that the cost of maintaining a single pauper for one year is greater than would be requisite for the support of a considerable number of persons in a Fever Hospital during the convalescence of the disease. You know well that the immediate removal of the first infected member of a poor family is the safety of the remainder; I say poor, for in the very extensive practice I have had in the treatment of this malady during the epidemic of 1817, and subsequently, I can safely say I have not known a case occurring from contagion in a respectable family, where strict attention was paid to cleanliness and ventilation. Beside, calculate if you can the immorality which is propagated and the public loss which is sustained by this disease-spreading and pauper-making machinery in the absence of Fever Hospital.

I may put my views in a tangible form by briefly stating, that in the Dispensary of Newtownlimavady over which I preside, 223 cases of Typhus Fever occurred during last year, at least two-thirds of which I have no doubt were the result of contact. In a poor village (Ballymore) about two miles from Newtown, containing 51 houses and 257 inhabitants, there are at this moment *twenty-one* individuals suffering under Fever, besides two who have died. The distemper was introduced into the village by a travelling mendicant who had been attacked by it.

I am Sir, yours very faithfully,

Marcus Dill, M.D.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDENDA TO APPENDIX (B.) &c.

Corrections and Addenda to Appendix (B.) &c.

It is scarcely to be expected that no inaccuracy should exist in the Reports or Tables contained in the first portion of the Appendix, printed with the Report of the 5th of May. Our aim, throughout, has been to give such a brief account of the state of the different classes of these Institutions, as would show the extent of relief now afforded, or likely to be hereafter afforded; and, as far as possible to point out the defects of each class, without giving offence to any of the Governors or Medical Officers. In a few instances, an imperative sense of duty compelled us to allude to one or other of these parties, in adverting to circumstances which we considered ought to be known; and if in doing this, we have hurt the feelings of any individual, we much regret it: but we hope that the position in which we were placed, and the difficulty of faithfully discharging our duty without some such allusion, will be taken into account; and we trust that these Reports, as a whole, will be considered to have been made in a fair, impartial, and professional, spirit.

A copy of the Commissioners' Report of the 5th of May was sent, a few months ago, to the Medical Officers of the several Institutions that had been inquired into up to that period, with a request that they would give the Governors and Subscribers an opportunity of making themselves acquainted with its contents. From the Governors and Medical Officers of the following Institutions, communications have been received, pointing out some inaccuracies. These communications have been carefully compared with our notes, and the following corrections are now made accordingly.

Page 10, par. 21.—*For* "Four Wards," *read* "Fever Wards."

Collinstown Dispensary, pages 32, 34.—When the Collinstown Dispensary was inspected, the Treasurer was not there, and the Return supplied to us was not quite correct. The state of its funds for the year 1839-40, was—

INCOME.	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions,	29	17	0
County Grant,	29	17	0
	£59	14	0

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Rent of Dispensary,	3	3	0
Fuel, Stamps, and Printing,	2	4	4
Subscription to Cowpock Institution,	1	1	0
Dispensary Outfit,	2	13	6
Medicines,	25	6	4½
Instruments,	0	18	5
Carriage of Medicines,	0	12	6
Salary of Medical Attendant,	23	14	10½
	£59	14	0

Tullamore Infirmary, pages 32, 35.—The number of extern Patients in the year 1839 was 5,722.

Mullingar Infirmary, pages 33, 34.—Nearly 4,000 persons received advice and medicines as externs at this Institution in the year 1839.

Enfield Dispensary, page 35.—The number of Patients in the year was 1,003.

Hillsboro' Dispensary and Fever Hospital, page 45.—It should have been stated that a second Hospital, more properly a Fever Hospital than that alluded to in the Report, exists at Hillsboro'.

Omagh Dispensary, page 52.—We have reason to believe that no injury or inconvenience arises from the arrangements alluded to.

Page 55, line 1.—*For* "Carndonagh Union," *read* "Inishowen Union."

Ballycally Dispensary, page 58.—This was omitted in the Ennis Union Report.

Clonoulty Dispensary, page 61.—The farmers *only* obtain Medical attendance in lieu of their subscriptions; this arrangement is considered to be here necessary, as, in consequence of the difficulty of procuring subscriptions from several of the Proprietary, sufficient funds to even moderately remunerate the Medical Officer could not be had.

Limerick City Infirmary, page 63.—In the Limerick Union Table, "City Limerick Fever Hospital," should be "City Limerick Infirmary."

Knockaderry Dispensary, page 63.—The population of this Dispensary District is considerably underrated in the Tables, but its amount cannot be ascertained.

Page 67.—The College of Physicians cannot, we are informed, give any Subscription, the property being held in trust for *specific* purposes.

Ardmore Dispensary, page 68.—We are informed that the Physician alluded to, has not ceased to subscribe. The property cost £15,000.

Johnstown Dispensary, pages 68, 69.—In consequence of the omission of the Medical Officer of the Johnstown Dispensary to convene a meeting of the Subscribers for the day appointed to inquire into the state of that Institution, and in consequence also of his absence on our arrival there, the information which we obtained was partly incorrect. We have since ascertained that the subscriptions are paid by persons of each religious persuasion, and that the duties of the Medical Officer are diligently discharged.

Whitegate Dispensary, pages 68, 69.—We have ascertained that the subscriptions to the Whitegate

Corrections and Addenda to Appendix (B.) &c.

Dispensary are contributed by persons of each religious persuasion indifferently, and that the duties of the Medical Attendant are diligently performed.

Castlecomer Fever Hospital and Dispensary, page 69.—We were mistaken in considering the Honorable C. B. C. S. Wandesford to have requested that we should make any record of his opinion as stated, and learn that he wished to be understood as merely assenting to the suggestions alluded to.

Lismore Fever Hospital and Dispensary.—Page 70, line 9, for £120, read £60. Line 11, for £165 16*s.*, read £132 1*s.* The area of the District is stated to be somewhat less than that given in the Table.

Ballinakill Dispensary, page 74.—The number of Patients in the year was 1,100.

Clondalkin Dispensary, page 75.—the Private Dispensary alluded to in the Report has, we learn, ceased to exist; but, at all times, the Public one has been efficiently conducted.

There is a Private Dispensary at Rathmines, and another at Harold's Cross, each affording considerable relief.

North Dublin Union, page 77.—A branch of the Glasnevin Dispensary, which has been established at Finglass, affords considerable relief in that District.

Rathdown Union, page 81.—There are ten Dispensaries in this Union. The word "two" in the 6th par. is a misprint.

Athy Fever Hospital and Dispensary, page 82.—The burning alluded to was not a malicious but an accidental one, and no Grand Jury Grant was obtained; but, out of Subscriptions collected to assist the sufferers, £175 12*s.* 6*d.* was given to the individual referred to, of which he presented the sum of £116 towards building a Fever Hospital.

The appointment of the second Candidate described in page 10, did not take place as was reported to us, although it was recommended by some of the largest and most influential Subscribers; but the terms proposed by the friends of the other Candidate and supposed to have been accepted, were considered afterwards to be objectionable.

Ballitore Dispensary.—This Institution was omitted in the Athy Union Report, page 82.

Kilmacow Dispensary, page 84.—The number of Patients attended at this Dispensary is recorded, and is very considerable.

Page 86, last line.—*For* "County," *read* "Country."

Page 89, line 21.—*For* "each Dispensary Union," *read* "each Union Dispensary."

[Pages 152 to 165.—*Note on the Column in the preceding Tables, in the Supplementary Appendix (D.), headed "Extern Patients—Dispensaries."*—The numbers specified in this Column should be stated to be the "Number recommended to the Dispensaries."]

DENIS PHELAN,

MAURICE CORR,

Assistant Poor Law Commissioners.

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OF THE

POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS

ON THE

MEDICAL CHARITIES,

IRELAND,

IN PURSUANCE OF THE 46TH SECTION OF THE ACT 1 & 2 VICTORIA, CHAP. 56.

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